

Maniapoto Tuhonohono - connecting people and place with matauranga



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Restoring iwi relationship with te awa o Waip

The degradation of the Waikato River and its catchment has severely compromised Waikato River iwi in their ability to exercise mana whakahaere and conduct tikanga and kawa.

This project delivers on Te Ture Whaimana o te awa o Waikato by restoring iwi relationship with te awa o Waipa by delivering a programme within a Te Ao Māori framework, weaving together mātauranga Māori and science using the awa and catchment as an outdoor classroom. Mātauranga Māori provides context and understanding of the cultural and historical landscape, and science supports the practical application of kaitiakitanga.

This project aims to establish a Poutautoko role for Maniapoto.

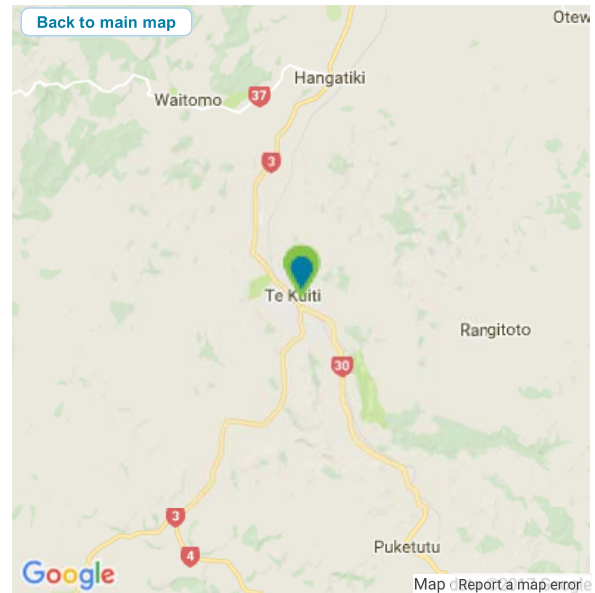
The programme presents a collaborative approach for engaging Māori communities such as wharekura, kura, kohanga/puna reo and marae using Te Aho Tū Roa's pūnaha akoako or action learning cycle as a tool to plan and implement projects lead by students and community members. The Poutautoko role is critical for building and enhancing relationships with Māori communities, encouraging a whole of school/community approach and curriculum integration, working across a range of learning areas. This supports connections and a greater depth of understanding.

The goal will be achieved by building relationships with 24 participants (wharekura, kura, kohanga/puna reo, marae) over the next three years, to identify their environmental aspirations, supporting the development of their mahere ako (learning plan) and integrating the curriculum across a range of learning areas. Making connections with the marautanga and qualifications such as NCEA credits is integral, as well as identifying key locations for hands on environmental learning on the awa and in the catchment.

The involvement of kaumatua and kuia, and the wider community in the hands on learning experience is part of a whole of school and community approach that this programme aims to demonstrate. This multi-year project will be implemented in the Waipā River catchment with support from Waikato Regional Council and Te Aho Tū Roa; the programme will expand and develop over the next three years from 2017 to 2019.

The project will build and maintain relationships with 8 participants (wharekura, kura, kohanga/puna reo, marae) in year 1, 8 new participants in year 2, and a further 8 new participants in year 3. A total of 24 participants will be engaged in this programme at the end of 2019.

This project received funding from the Waikato River Authority (WRA 16-023).



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