



**Te Puni Kōkiri**  
REALISING MĀORI POTENTIAL

**He Kura Māori mō Tō Tamaiti**  
*Māori Immersion Education for Your Child*



An information booklet for parents and whānau

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## HE MANU HOU AHAU, HE PĪ KA RERE

*I am a young bird, a chick just learning to fly*

### TE KŌWHIRI I TĒTAHI KURA MŌ TŌ TAMAITI

#### *Choosing a school*

Starting school is an exciting time for tamariki and their whānau. But choosing where to enrol your child can be a hard decision. It means thinking about what's important to you for your child and what you want them to get out of school.

If raising your child with te reo Māori is important to you and your whānau, then enrolling your child in Māori immersion education may be a really good option to consider.

### TE AKO MĀ TE RUMAKI KI TE REO MĀORI

#### *Māori immersion education*

Māori immersion education includes schools, units and classrooms where all teaching and learning is carried out in te reo Māori. These Māori language education settings are often called kura Māori and can go from Years 1-13 (i.e. primary through to intermediate and secondary levels).

Kura Māori play an important role in the revitalisation and retention of te reo Māori me ngā tikanga Māori.

In kura Māori, students are encouraged to value their identity as Māori. They develop key skills and knowledge through Māori settings and ideas.

If your child has been through kōhanga reo, it is likely that you will be able to enrol them in a kura Māori. If they haven't been through kōhanga reo or another form of Māori language early childhood setting and you still want to enrol them in a kura Māori, you will need to discuss their enrolment with the kura – they will want to ensure your child will be able to cope in a classroom where only Māori is spoken.

## NGĀ HUA O TE AKO I NGĀ REO E RUA

### *The benefits of Māori immersion education*

Enrolling your child in a kura Māori will help build on what you and your whānau are already doing at home to support their learning and development. It will provide them with an opportunity to be bilingual – that is, able to speak two languages fluently and naturally.


Keep your own whānau informed as to why you've chosen this pathway. Make sure they know that your children are special and that they're learning the same subjects as all other children. Talk to them about the benefits of being bilingual and give them an opportunity to be part of the enrolment process.

There are lots of benefits in being bilingual. Research shows that children who are bilingual:

- have a strong sense of their own identity
- have good thinking skills
- have good problem-solving skills
- find it easier to learn other languages
- are able to appreciate other cultures
- are confident and have good self-esteem.

Being bilingual means your child will have better opportunities as an adult both here in Aotearoa New Zealand and overseas – with skills and knowledge to contribute, participate and succeed in both te ao Māori (Māori world) and te ao whānui (global world).

"I had my doubts when my daughter said she wanted my grandchildren to go to a kura Māori. I thought it would mean they would miss out on learning English. But I can see now that they are confident in both languages – they have the best of both worlds. It is wonderful to see them growing up so sure of who they are and where they are from." Koro Tai Tahau



# TŌKU REO, TŌKU OHOHO; TŌKU REO, TŌKU MĀPIHI MAUREA

*My language is my strength*

## NGĀ WĀHANGA AKO

*What they learn*

Te Marautanga o Aotearoa is the national curriculum for all kura Māori and sets the foundation for what is taught. It encourages kura and whānau to work together to support their children's education.

Kura, whānau and their communities are encouraged to use Te Marautanga o Aotearoa as a basis to create their own kura curriculum that reflects their needs, identity, values and vision. Kura share this information in their kura charter.

If you enrol your child in a kura Māori their learning will be based on the nine learning areas of Te Marautanga o Aotearoa :

- Te Reo Māori
- Pāngarau (Maths)
- Pūtaiao (Science)
- Hangarau (Technology)
- Tikanga ā Iwi (Social Sciences)
- Ngā Toi (Arts)
- Hauora (Health and Physical Education)
- Te Reo Pākehā (English)
- Ngā Reo (Languages)

Your child will develop key skills and knowledge in these learning areas through ideas and settings that reflect Māori values, culture, heritage and aspirations for the future.


"Choosing a school for Ariki was a really big decision. We wanted a safe place where he can excel in his learning and get a strong grounding in te reo Māori and tikanga Māori. This is really important to us and we felt he would get this through a kura Māori. The kura provides a whānau environment for learning and we've encouraged him to think of the kura as his whānau. This has really helped him settle in to kura." Mike Tana

## KIA MŌHIO NOA KOE ...

### *What to expect*

Kura Māori aim to provide a unique learning environment that encourages children to value their identity as Māori and become lifelong learners. It may be different from what you know about other school settings, so here's a taste of what you can expect when you enrol your child in a kura Māori:

- your child and whānau will likely be welcomed to the kura with a pōhiri or whakatau (less formal welcoming ceremony)
- your child will be taught in te reo Māori so will likely receive homework that is in te reo Māori
- there will be an expectation that you will speak Māori at all times while at the kura, or if you cannot speak Māori, that you will refrain from speaking English at the kura
- some kura will have designated areas where it is okay to speak English
- your child will be taught in the nine curriculum learning areas (see page 4) and will also learn through kapa haka, sport and recreation and ngā mahi a rēhia
- English will be taught as a subject . Ask the kura when they introduce it
- you can expect your child's teacher to keep in touch with you about your child's progress and to notify you as soon as possible if they have any concerns about your child's development
- there will be an expectation of you to help your child get to school every day and on time.



## KIA EKE AU KI ŌKU TAUMATA

*So that I might reach my full potential*

### TE WHAKARITE I TŌ TAMAITI MŌ TE URU ATU KI TE KURA

*Preparing your child for kura*

Starting kura can be a major change for children – and their whānau. Here are some tips to help ensure your child has the best possible start at kura:

- talk with your child about school a couple of months before they're due to start – help them get excited about starting this next phase of life!
- talk with them about the other children they know that already go to the kura – if they don't know any one yet, tell them that kura is going to be a great opportunity for them to make a whole lot of new friends
- point the kura out to your child every time you drive by or walk past it – encourage your child to think of it as 'their' kura
- take your child up to the kura at weekends or after kōhanga to have a look around – let them have a play on the playground and look through the windows at the pictures on the walls and other children's work
- if your child knows children already at the kura, consider inviting one or two of them around to play so your child will have some friends at kura when they start
- make sure your child can go to the toilet on his/her own and take his/her shoes on and off without help
- get in contact early with local kura so that you become familiar with the kura programmes and expectations.



"My partner and I have made a commitment to raising our girls with te reo Māori because it's part of who they are. They went to kōhanga reo, so enrolling them in a kura Māori seemed a natural step from there. But we know we have to make the effort at home too. Before Korihimihiata started school, we started making 6pm–8pm every night a time when we would only speak Māori. She's been at kura for six months now and we've just had her first school report. She's getting really confident with her reo and we're really happy with the progress she is making." Danessa Hill

## TE TAUTOKO I TŌ TAMAITI KI TE AKO I TE REO

### *Supporting your child's language development*

Research shows that children learning in kura Māori who speak even only a little Māori language at home achieve better than those who speak none. Whānau who speak Māori at home, even if only a little, help increase their children's chances of making good progress in pānui (reading), tuhituhi (writing) and pāngarau (maths). So even if you don't speak Māori yourself, you still have an important role to play in supporting your child's learning.

Here are some tips to help you build on what you're already doing at home to support your child's language development:

- speak Māori as much and as often as you can at home and when you're out and about in your community so that your child learns te reo Māori is for everyone, everywhere and anywhere – not just at kura
- encourage your friends and family to communicate in Māori with your child as much as they can
- if you don't speak Māori or are just learning at a basic level, try to use as many Māori words and phrases as you can that you know are correct
- use words and phrases with your child that are used everyday, e.g. at mealtimes, while getting dressed, for showing love or praising your child, or for bath time or bedtime routines
- take your child to places or hui where you know other Māori speakers will be present so that they can hear Māori language being spoken naturally
- remember to praise your child for speaking Māori – tell them how clever they are that they can speak more than one language
- keep in regular contact with your child's teacher about your child's learning rather than waiting for the formal occasions like parent-teacher interviews.
- a useful resource is "Kei Roto i te Whare". You can get a copy from Te Puni Kōkiri by emailing [comms@tpk.govt.nz](mailto:comms@tpk.govt.nz) or downloading a copy from [www.tpk.govt.nz](http://www.tpk.govt.nz).

# MĀ PANGO, MĀ WHERE KA OTI TE MAHI

*Success will be achieved through working together*

## TE WĀHI KI NGĀ WHĀNAU

*Getting involved*

When you enrol your child in a kura Māori, it's not only your child who becomes part of the kura, but your whānau too. Whānau play an important role in the running of kura Māori and you will have opportunities to bring your wealth of skills and values to contribute to and benefit the kura community. Getting involved with your kura will help you keep in touch with your child's development.

There are lots of ways to become involved in your child's education at a kura Māori – whether in the classroom, helping with kapa haka or school lunches, going on school trips or a more formal involvement such as being a member of the board of trustees.

You may be able to help with reading, games or cultural activities; class outings or camps; library duty or supervising children on the school bus or as they walk to school. Talk to your child's teacher – they'll explain how you can help and who to contact.

## HEI PUNA RAUEMI

For more information

### Choosing a school

- [www.teamup.co.nz](http://www.teamup.co.nz) and type 'choosing a school' into the search box
- [www.ero.govt.nz](http://www.ero.govt.nz) and select the option 'choosing a school for a 5 year old?'
- contact the kura Māori you are interested in and ask for a copy of their enrolment information i.e. enrolment package, information booklet, prospectus, school, latest Education Review Office report.

### Supporting your child's and your whānau's language development

- [www.koreromaori.co.nz](http://www.koreromaori.co.nz)
- [www.tetaurawhiri.govt.nz](http://www.tetaurawhiri.govt.nz)
- [www.maori.org.nz](http://www.maori.org.nz)
- [www.tpk.govt.nz](http://www.tpk.govt.nz)



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He pukapuka whakamōhio mā ngā mātua me ngā whānau

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## HE MANU HOU AHAU, HE PĪ KA RERE

### TE KŌWHIRI I TĒTAHI KURA MŌ TŌ TAMAITI

He wā whakahirahira te tīmatanga ki te kura mō ngā tamariki me ngā whānau. Engari, he mea uaua te kōwhiri kura. Me āta whakaaro koe he aha ō tino wawata mō tāu tamaiti, he aha hokī ō whāinga, ō hiahia mō ngā akoranga ka kapohia e tāu tamaiti i te kura.

Mēnā he mea nui ki a koe me tō whānau kia tipu ake tāu tamaiti me te reo, tērā koe te āta whiriwhiri mō te tuku i a ia ki tētahi kura reo Māori.

### TE AKO MĀ TE RUMAKI KI TE REO MĀORI

Kei roto i te mātauranga rumaki reo Māori ngā kura, ngā taiwhanga ako me ngā akomanga e whakaako kaupapa ana ki te reo Māori. E kīia ana ēnei wāhi mātauranga reo Māori, he kura Māori, ā, ka tīmata mai i te tau 1–13 (arā, mai i te kura tuatahi, ki te kura takawaenga me te kura tuarua).

Ko tā te kura Māori he whakahau i ngā tauira kia mau i tō rātou Māoritanga. Mā te noho ahurea Māori, ka ako pūkenga motuhake, ka ako mātauranga rātou.

Mēnā i haere tāu tamaiti ki te kōhanga reo, e pai ana pea kia whakauru i a ia ki tētahi kura Māori. Mēnā kāore ia i haere ki te kōhanga reo, ki tētahi atu akomanga reo Māori rānei mō te kōhungahunga, engari, kei te pīrangi tonu koe kia haere ia ki tētahi kura Māori, me kōrero ki te kura mō tana whakaurutanga. Mā koutou ko te kura e wānanga tahi mēnā ka tau te noho a tāu tamaiti ki tētahi akomanga reo Māori.

## NGĀ HUA O TE AKO I NGĀ REO E RUA

Ki te tuku koe i tāu tamaiti ki tētahi kura Māori, ka āwhina te kura i a koe me tō whānau ki te whakawhanake ake i te mātauranga e whakaakona ana i te kāinga. Ka reo rua tāu tamaiti – arā, ka matatau ia ki te kōrero noa mai i ngā reo e rua.


Kōrero ki tō whānau, nā te aha koe i kōwhiri ai i tēnei momo ara mātauranga mō āu tamariki. Me mōhio tonu rātou he tino taonga āu tamariki, ā, he rite ā rātou kaupapa ako ki ā ētahi atu tamariki. Kōrero atu ki a rātou i ngā hua o te reo ruatanga, ā, me whakarite kia uru mai rātou ki te hātepe whakauru.

He nui ngā hua o te mōhio ki ngā reo e rua. E ai ki ngā rangahau, e mōhio pai ana ngā tamariki reo rua:

- ko wai rātou
- te whai whakaaro
- te whakatau kaupapa
- te ako reo anō
- te tauawhi iwi kē
- kia ngākau tītikaha, kia whakapono ki a rātou anō.

Ki te reo rua tāu tamaiti, nui kē ake ngā kaupapa whai angitū hei kapo ake māna i konei me tawāhi, ka pakeke ana ia – he pūkenga ōna, he mātauranga tōna hei tohatoha, hei tuku, e momoho ai ia i te ao Māori me te ao whānui.

"He nui aku mātukanuka i te wā i kī mai ai taku tamāhine he hiahia tōna kia haere aku mokopuna ki tētahi kura Māori. I pōhēhe au, ka kore rātou e ako i te reo Pākehā. Engari, i nāianeī tārake ana te kite, e mōhio pai ana rātou ki ngā reo e rua – nō rātou ngā painga o ngā ao e rua. He rawe te mātakitaki i a rātou e tipu ake ana i runga i te mōhio ko wai rātou, nō hea rātou." Koro Tai Tahu



# TŌKU REO, TŌKU OHOOHO; TŌKU REO, TŌKU MĀPIHI MAUREA

## NGĀ WĀHANGA AKO

Ko Te Marautanga o Aotearoa te tāhuhu marau mō ngā kura Māori katoa, ā, koia te tūāpapa o ngā kaupapa ako. Ko tāna he whakatenatena i ngā kura me ngā whānau kia mahi tahi hei taituarā mō te mātauranga o ngā tamariki.

E kaha ana ngā kura, ngā whānau me ngā hāpori kia whakamahi i Te Marautanga o Aotearoa hei hanga i tā rātou ake marautanga ā-kura mō ngā hiahia, ngā uara, ngā āhua me te tirohanga whakamua o te kura. Ka tohaina ēnei mōhiohio i te tūtohinga kura.

Ki te tuku koe i tāu tamaiti ki tētahi kura Māori, ka noho mai ko ēnei kaupapa ako e iwa o Te Marautanga o Aotearoa hei tūāpapa mō te ako:

- Te Reo Māori
- Pāngarau
- Pūtaiao
- Hangarau
- Tikanga ā Iwi
- Ngā Toi
- Hauora
- Te Reo Pākehā
- Ngā Reo

Ka hua ake he pūkenga motuhake, he mātauranga hoki i tāu tamaiti ki ēnei kaupapa ako mā roto mai i ngā whakaaro me ngā horopaki e whakaata mai ana i ngā uara Māori, i te ahurea Māori, i ngā tikanga Māori me ngā tūmanako Māori mō āpōpō.




“He whakatau nui te whiriwhiri kura mō Ariki. I hiahia mātou ki tētahi wāhi āhuru e koke ai ia i roto i tāna ako, otirā, e mau ai i a ia te reo Māori me ngā tikanga Māori hei tāhuhu mōna. He mea nui tēnei ki a mātou, ā, i whakaaro ake mātou ka tutuki i te kura Māori. E noho whānau ana te kura kia pai ai te ako, ā, kua whakahaua taku tama kia whakaarotia te kura hei whānau – ko tōna whānau. Nā tēnei kua tau tāna noho ki te kura.” Mike Tana

### KIA MŌHIO NOA KOE ...

Ko tētahi whāinga a ngā kura Māori, he whakatū taiao ako motuhake kia mōhio ai ngā tamariki ki te whakanui i tō rātou Māoritanga, me te ako tonu mō ngā rā katoa o ō rātou ao. Ka rerekē pea i ētahi atu kura, nō reira, anei ētahi o ōna āhuatanga:

- ka rāhiritia tāu tamaiti me te whānau ki te kura mā te pōwhiri, mā te whakatau rānei
- ka ako tāu tamaiti ki te reo Māori, nā reira, ka reo Māori āna mahi ā-kainga
- he wāhi kōrero Māori ngā kura Māori, nā reira kia kaha koe ki te hiki i tō tātou reo rangatira me te tautoko i te kaupapa ina haere koe ki te kura
- kei ētahi kura ō rātou wāhi motuhake mō te kōrero Pākehā
- ka ako tāu tamaiti i ngā kaupapa ako e iwa (tirohia wh. 4), ā, ka ako hoki ia mā te kapa haka, te tākaro, te hākinakina me ngā mahi a rēhia
- ka whakaakona te reo Pākehā hei kaupapa ako i te wharekura (kura tuarua), i mua rānei i ētahi kura
- Ka rongō tāu tamaiti i ngā momo mīta a iwi
- ka whakapā tonu te kaiako o tāu tamaiti ki a koe e pā ana ki te ahu whakamuatanga o tāu tamaiti - ngā awangawanga mōna (mēnā he āwangawanga) me ngā kōkiringa o tāu tamaiti
- ka tūmanako te kura, māu tāu tamaiti e āwhina kia tae ki te kura i ia ra, i te wā tika.



## KIA EKE AU KI ŌKU TAUMATA

### TE WHAKARITE I TŌ TAMAITI MŌ TE URU ATU KI TE KURA

I ētahi wa, he āhuatanga tino hou ki ngā tamariki te tīmatanga ki te kura – me ngā whānau. Anei ētahi tiwhiri kia pai te tīmatanga o tāu tamaiti ki te kura:

- kōrero ki tāu tamaiti mō te kura e toru marama pea i mua i tōna rā tīmata ki reira – whakahihiritia a ia ki tēnei wāhanga hou o tōna ao
- kōrero ki a ia mō ngā tamariki e mōhio ana ia kua tīmata kē atu ki te kura – mēnā kāore ia i te mōhio ki ētahi atu tamariki i te kura, mea atu ki a ia ko te kura tētahi wāhi tino pai mō te tūtaki hoa hou
- me āta tohu te kura ki tāu tamaiti, ina pahure i a kōrua mā runga waka, mā raro rānei – whakahaua ia kia whakaaro nōna te kura
- haria tāu tamaiti ki te kura i ngā rangi whakatā, ā muri rānei i te kōhanga reo hei tiroiro – tukuna ia kia tākaro ki te wāhi tākaro, kia titiro ki roto i ngā matapihi ki ngā pikitia i ngā pātū me te mahi a ngā tamariki
- mēnā e mōhio kē ana tāu tamaiti ki ētahi o ngā tamariki o te kura, whakaarohia kia pōwhiritia ētahi o rātou ki tō kāinga takaro ai, kia whai hoa ia
- me mōhio tāu tamaiti ki te kawē i a ia anō ki te wharepaku, ki te tango me te whakamau hoki i ōna hū, kāore he āwhina
- me whakapā wawe atu ki te kura o tō rohe kia waia ai koe ki ana hōtaka me ōna hiahia.

"Kua whakaae māua ko taku hoa kia whakatipu i ā māua tamāhine me te reo Māori, i te mea, ko rāua tonu tērā. I haere rāua ki te kōhanga reo, nā reira, he mea tika kia haere rāua ki te kura Māori. Engari, e mōhio ana māua me kōrero Māori hoki māua i te kāinga. I mua i te haere a Korihimihiaata ki te kura, i whakaritea kia kōrero Māori anake mātou katoa mai i te 6pm–8pm i ia pō. E ono marama ia i te kura i nāianeī, kua tae tonu mai tana pūrongo tuatahi. E tipu ake ana tōna kaha ki te kōrero Māori, ā, kei te harikoa katoa mātou ki tōna whanaketanga." Danessa Hill

## TE TAUTOKO I TŌ TAMAITI KI TE AKO I TE REO

E ai ki ngā rangahau mō ngā tamariki i ngā kura Māori, he pai ake te angitū o ngā tamariki e kōrero Māori ana ō rātou whānau i te kāinga – ahakoa pēhea te iti o te reo e kōrerotia ana – i ngā tamariki kāore te reo e rangona i ō rātou kāinga. Kei te āwhina ngā whānau e kōrero Māori ana i te kāinga (ahakoa te iti) i te whanaketanga o ā rātou tamariki i te pānui, i te tuhituhi me te pāngarau.

Anei ētahi tiwhiri hei āwhina i te mahi e mahia ana e koe i te kāinga hei tautoko i te whanaketanga o te reo o tāu tamaiti:

- kia kaha ki te kōrero Māori i te kāinga, i ngā wāhi haerere noa hoki kia ako ai tāu tamaiti nō te katoa te reo, nō te tī, nō te tā – ehara i te kura anake
- whakahau i ō hoa me tō whānau kia kōrero Māori ki tāu tamaiti
- haria tāu tamaiti ki ngā wāhi me ngā hui e haere atu nei te iwi kōrero Māori, kia rongo ai ia i te reo Māori e kōrerotia noatia ana
- whakanuia tāu tamaiti mō te kōrero Māori – meatia atu he atamai nōna e rua ōna reo
- whakahau i tāu tamaiti kia kōrero ia i tōna ake mīta – he mea nui kia whakatauiratia, kia tautokohia tēnei e te whānau
- whakapā tonu atu ki te kaiako o tāu tamaiti mō te āhua o te ako a tāu tamaiti, kua e tatarī noa kia tū ngā hui ōkawa pērā i ngā hui mātua-kaiako
- tonu atu mō tētahi o ngā rauemi reo Māori a Te Puni Kōkiri, ara, "Kei Roto i te Whare".

# MĀ PANGO, MĀ WHEREO KA OTI TE MAHI

## TE WĀHI KI NGĀ WHĀNAU

Ina whakauru koe i tāu tamaiti ki te kura Māori, ehara i te mea ko tāu tamaiti anake ka hono ki te kura, engari, ko te whānau hoki. He wāhanga nui tō te whānau i roto i te mahi whakahaere i te kura Māori, nā reira, ka whai wāhi koe ki te tohatoha i ō pūkenga me ō mātāpono hei oranga mō te kura. Mā tō hono ki te kura, ka mōhio tonu koe e pēhea ana te whanaketanga mai o tāu tamaiti.

He nui ngā ara e whai wāhi ai koe ki roto i te mahi akoako a tāu tamaiti i te kura – ahakoa i te akomanga, i te kapa haka, i te mahi i te kai o te rā nui, i te haere i ngā haerenga a te kura me ngā kaupapa, pēnei i te noho hei māngai i te poari kaitiaki o te kura.

Tērā koe te āwhina atu i ngā kaupapa pānui, tākaro, ahurea rānei; ngā haerenga me ngā hōpuni, te tū hei kaitiaki i te whare pukapuka, i ngā tamariki rānei ki runga pahi, ki runga ara hīkoi ki te kura. Kōrero atu ki te kaiako o tāu tamaiti – māna koe e whakamōhio me pēhea tō āwhina, me whakapā atu rānei koe ki a wai.

## HEI PUNA RAUEMI

Te kōwhiri kura

- [www.teamup.co.nz](http://www.teamup.co.nz) ka patoa 'choosing a school' i te pouaka kikimi
- [www.ero.govt.nz](http://www.ero.govt.nz) ka meatia te whiringa 'choosing a school for a 5 year old?'
- Whakapā atu ki ngā kura Māori i tō rohe me te pātai atu mō ngā tāruatanga o ā rātou mōhiohio whakauru.

Te tautoko i tō tamaiti ako i te reo

- [www.kōreroMāori.co.nz](http://www.kōreroMāori.co.nz)
- [www.tetaurawhiri.govt.nz](http://www.tetaurawhiri.govt.nz)
- [www.Māori.org.nz](http://www.Māori.org.nz)
- [www.tpk.govt.nz](http://www.tpk.govt.nz)