**Aotearoa New Zealand’s Histories | Te Takanga o Te Wā – key messages for schools and kura, for parents, whānau and local communities**

From 2023, Te Takanga o Te Wā (TToTW) and Aotearoa New Zealand’s Histories (ANZH) will be part of all kura and school’s marau ā-kura | local curriculum. The final content has been released in March 2022 to give kura and schools time to plan for implementation of the curriculum content from term 1 2023.

* Te Takanga o Te Wā final content and resources can be found at **kauwhatareo.govt.nz/mi/kaupapa/te-takanga-o-te-wa**
* Aotearoa New Zealand’s histories final content and resources can be found at **aotearoahistories.education.govt.nz**

**You may get queries from parents and whānau about why Te Takanga o Te Wā and Aotearoa New Zealand’s histories is being introduced into the national curriculum, what this will mean for their tamariki, and what they might be learning.**

In terms 1 and 2 2022 we will be focused on providing school leaders, teachers and kaiako with supports and resources to help them engage with the new curriculum content. We are working on a range of resources and supports to be released later in the year, to help guide schools and kura to develop their local curriculum | marau ā-kura with parents, whānau and your local communities, to include local critical histories.

**In the meantime, the following information will help you communicate these changes with parents, whānau and your local communities, and answer any questions they may have.**

**Key messages**

* There was a strong call for the histories of Aotearoa New Zealand to be taught to all ākonga (learners) at all schools and kura.

Aotearoa New Zealand is on a journey to ensure that all ākonga in our schools and kura learn how our histories help shape our lives.

* Learning about our histories will mean that everyone who learns through our national curriculum understands our history from different perspectives or viewpoints; where we live, where we come from and what was here in the past.
* Learning about our histories helps young people develop their critical thinking skills. This includes being able to decide whether information is reliable or unreliable. It also helps them to understand the perspectives and experiences of a diverse range of New Zealanders.
* All schools and kura will be working towards including Aotearoa New Zealand’s histories or Te Takanga o Te Wā in their curriculum from term 1 2023.
* Schools and kura will adopt the new content at a pace that works for them and their communities.
* Teachers and kaiako will be well supported to introduce the new curriculum content into their teaching and learning.
* Te Tāhuhu o te Mātauranga - Ministry of Education tested the draft curriculum content with teachers, school leaders and the public to find out what they thought about it, and made some changes based on that feedback.
* Over the next five years Te Tāhuhu o te Mātauranga - Ministry of Education is refreshing the national curriculum, which includes *The New Zealand Curriculum* and *Te Marautanga o Aotearoa*, to make sure it is clearer, more relevant and easier for teachers to use.
* Aotearoa New Zealand’s histories and Te Takanga o Te Wā mark the first step towards the changes in these curriculum documents.

**Q&As**

**Why is the curriculum being updated to include Aotearoa New Zealand’s histories?**

Te Tāhuhu o te Mātauranga - Ministry of Education heard a strong call for the history of Aotearoa New Zealand to be taught to all ākonga (learners) at all schools and kura.

This has been requested for a number of years from different groups, including teachers, students and the public. The requests have included petitions from students and teachers asking that the history of Aotearoa New Zealand should be an essential part of the national curriculum.

Te Tāhuhu o te Mātauranga - Ministry of Education responded to that call and in September 2019, the Prime Minister announced that Aotearoa New Zealand’s histories should be taught in all schools and kura.

**When will students learn about national and local history?**

All schools and kura will be working towards including Aotearoa New Zealand’s histories or Te Takanga o Te Wā in their curriculum from 2023.

They will use the national curriculum (*Te Marautanga o Aotearoa* and *The New Zealand Curriculum*) to design their own marau ā-kura | local curriculum as the basis for teaching locally relevant topics.

**How is a local curriculum different from the national curriculum?**

The national curriculum (*Te Marautanga o Aotearoa* and *The New Zealand Curriculum*) is a description of what all ākonga across Aotearoa New Zealand will learn.

In the context of school and kura settings across Aotearoa, the national curriculum (which includes *The New Zealand Curriculum* and *Te Marautanga o Aotearoa*) sets out the expectations and requirements for teaching and learning. It contains the learning that all ākonga should experience in schools and kura.

Marau ā-kura | local curriculum is how to interpret and present *Te Marautanga o Aotearoa* and *The New Zealand Curriculum* to ākonga in kura and schools, making it relevant to their current and future lives – their strengths, aspirations and needs.

Kura and schools work out how to shape their marau ā-kura | local curriculum by collaborating with ākonga, parents, whānau, hapū, iwi and their wider community.

**What will my child be learning about?**

The new curriculum does not describe or mandate the day-to-day learning for all ākonga.

Instead, tumuaki, school leaders, kaiako, and teachers, with support from whānau and their communities, will use the national curriculum to plan the histories content for their marau ā-kura | local curriculum at their school or kura.

Different schools and kura will have different approaches to teaching this new content - it is about what works for each school and kura, their ākonga and communities.

For example, while every school and kura will teach their students about Te Tiriti o Waitangi| the Treaty of Waitangi, they will be able to approach the topic in ways that are most relevant for them.

Schools and kura will then identify the historical events of significance or importance to their region, community, rohe or local groups, that they would like to include in their marau ā-kura | local curriculum.

To create rich local curricula, we are continuing to work alongside other agencies such as local galleries, libraries, archives, and museums to ensure that the resources and expertise of local histories are known to, and can be accessed by, kura and schools.

**Will this mean Aotearoa New Zealand’s histories will become a compulsory subject?**

Yes, we expect New Zealand’s histories to be taught as part of the marau ā-kura | local curriculum at every level of the compulsory curriculum (Years 1-10) by 2023.

**Will New Zealand’s histories be included in NCEA?**

Yes. The curriculum changes and NCEA change package will provide opportunities for New Zealand’s histories.

All schools and kura will be working towards including Aotearoa New Zealand’s histories or Te Takanga o Te Wā in their curriculum by 2023.

**Will a range of histories be taught? What topics?**

Teachers and kaiako will choose topics that have personal and social significance for society and that engage ākonga at local, national, and global levels.

Local histories will include events of significance or importance to specific regions, communities, rohe or groups that schools and kura identify as important to include in their marau ā-kura | local curriculum.

For Te Takanga o Te Wā and Aotearoa New Zealand’s histories, for example:

* learners with strong links to the Pacific community can learn about the history of Pacific peoples in Aotearoa New Zealand
* learners in rural parts of Aotearoa New Zealand can learn about farming and trade history
* learners in special character kura and schools can learn about the histories that are relevant to that character
* ākonga Māori can learn about significant events for Māori, such as Te Koroneihana or Ruapekapeka.

The flexible marau ā-kura | local curriculum is how all schools and kura can ensure that all ākonga are able to see themselves and the histories most relevant to them and their area in their learning, whilst the national curriculum ensures some histories are learnt by all ākonga.

**How do I know whether my child’s teacher or kaiako is able to teach this new content?**

Te Tāhuhu o te Mātauranga - Ministry of Education is providing resources and supports which are available now to help kura and schools to identify their strengths, and areas to develop further for teaching histories.

Teachers and Kaiako know how to find the information they need to support both teaching and learning, as well as the development of marau ā-kura | local curriculum.

Some teachers or kaiako will need to develop their capability in this area, and professional development and new resources will be available to support this.