



TE TĀHUHU O TE MĀTAURANGA

Ministry of Education

Māori Education Strategy



Introduction

This document, *Māori Education Strategy*, provides readers with an overview of the high level goals and strategic direction intended to guide education policies and programmes over the next few years.

It provides an insight into the ways of working and thinking that will make the biggest difference to the educational achievement of Māori learners. It also incorporates the goals and aspirations expressed by Māori and the government.

In part, this document is a point of reference for the many people within the education sector involved in developing education strategies, policies and programmes. Though it should be used in a way that does not override the visions, strategies and plans developed by the many Māori organisations involved in education. Overall, this document aims to ensure Māori success remains at the forefront of everyone's minds and results from all our actions.

Ensuring the New Zealand education system supports Māori success in education, while at the same time reflecting the aspirations and expectations of Māori is something we all have a stake in.

As Professor Durie, in his address to the 2001 Hui Taumata Mātauranga, so aptly put it:

'Although education has a number of other goals including enlightenment and learning for the sake of learning, three particular goals have been highlighted as relevant to Māori:

- *enabling Māori to live as Māori*
- *facilitating participation as citizens of the world*
- *contributing towards good health and a high standard of living.*

Education is not the only factor that will determine fluency in te reo, or readiness for participation in a global society, or good health, but it has the potential to be a major contributor, and educational failure significantly reduces chances in any of the three areas.' Mason Durie, A framework for considering Māori educational achievement, 2001.

To read more about the *Māori Education Strategy* or to download this document as a PDF visit:

www.minedu.govt.nz/goto/maoriedstrategy

Māori success - a key priority

Goals and direction

Ensuring the success of Māori in education is a key priority for the Ministry of Education. This commitment is reflected in the high level goals and strategic direction for education as a whole.

For example, the Ministry of Education's mission statement, the organisation's three vital outcomes, and the *Māori Education Strategy*, all focus on increasing teaching effectiveness, ensuring high-quality education provision and recognising student diversity and the diversity of home and community contexts. By focusing on these things, the Ministry is seeking to help create an education system that supports the educational success of Māori and all New Zealanders.

Ways of working

The Ministry of Education is committed to working, thinking and relating in ways that ensure Māori success in education. For example, it is committed to:

- working with and alongside Māori to ensure goals are achieved
- focusing more explicitly and deliberately on changes in learning for all Māori students
- finding more effective and sustainable ways to contribute to the achievement of goals and increasing the ability of the education system to provide greater value for Māori
- strengthening the capability of the education system to take account of and work effectively to help realise the education aspirations of Māori.



Goals

The *Māori Education Strategy* originated from Māori and government consultation in 1997 and 1998. At the time, three core goals were agreed to and they remain part of the strategy today.

The goals were to:

- raise the quality of mainstream (English-medium) education
- support the growth of high-quality kaupapa Māori education
- support greater involvement and authority of Māori in education.

In 2000, the strategy developed further. This time the government added goals and targets, including:

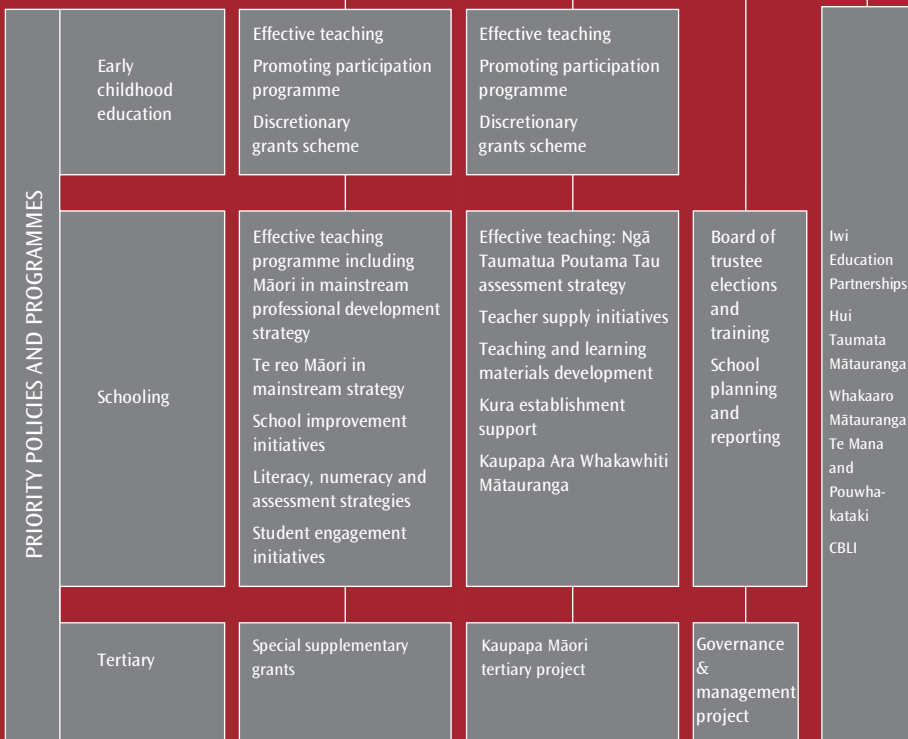
- increase participation in early childhood education to at least 65 percent by 2006 as measured by enrolments of 0 - 4 year olds
- reduce the rate of Māori suspensions in the compulsory school sector to 5 per 1,000 students by 2008 and to the same as non-Māori by 2016
- within the next 20 years the achievement levels, as measured by the number of tertiary graduates at diploma, undergraduate and postgraduate degree level, of Māori students will match that of non-Māori students
- increase the achievement of Māori students in senior secondary qualifications by 12 percent (of the current rates) by 2010 and to at least match the achievement rates of non-Māori students by 2020.

Today, the *Māori Education Strategy* also sits in the context of the government's main goals for education.

- All learners be equipped with the skills they need in the 21st century
- Systemic underachievement in education be reduced.



Māori Education Strategy



Policies and programmes

Initially, the *Māori Education Strategy* focused largely on the school sector and influenced policies and programmes such as the school sector regulations review, the process for establishing kura kaupapa Māori and the programmes supporting 'at-risk' children and families.

Over time, new policies and programmes were developed to support the strategy. They focused on:

- increasing the involvement and authority of the kura kaupapa Māori movement
- supporting the growth of kura kaupapa Māori
- creating and enhancing opportunities for Māori to be involved and to have authority within education
- improving the quality and availability of information about education by establishing Whakaaro Mātauranga.

In 2000 and 2001, yet more policies and programmes were introduced to support the goals of the strategy. They included:

- investing in Māori teacher supply
- promoting participation in early childhood education
- investing in school student engagement programmes
- investing in effective teaching and high-quality schooling programmes
- investing in Māori language education programmes and increasing operational funding for kura teina
- introducing Special Supplementary Grants (Māori) for tertiary education institutions
- increasing the investment in the development of Iwi Education Partnerships
- supporting the Hui Taumata Mātauranga process.

Most recently, effort has been focused on implementing and refining the range of policies and programmes in place to support the strategy.

Links to education strategies

The *Māori Education Strategy* has influenced a wide range of education strategies since it was first developed in 1999, including those listed below.

Early childhood and tertiary

The strategies for early childhood education and tertiary education both have at their heart a commitment to improving the quality of learning outcomes for all children and students. Each is based on the knowledge that education can enrich lives and strengthen social, cultural and economic wellbeing. Both are based on the belief that everyone deserves the best that high-quality education can offer.

These strategies aim to improve achievement for all children and students, including those who are Māori. They focus on high-quality teaching, high-quality providers, and collaborative relationships between people, institutions, activities, and agencies.

School

A schooling strategy is also in development, sharing similar themes to the early childhood education and tertiary strategies. The schooling strategy will provide a five-year framework for the school sector, drawing from the best and latest research evidence about what improves student achievement.

Others

Other Ministry strategies focused on literacy, numeracy, special education and information and communication technology, all aim to make a significant contribution to the success of Māori in education.



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