

Information for learners, parents and whānau

Aotearoa New Zealand's histories in the national curriculum

On 19 September 2019 the Prime Minister and Minister of Education announced that Aotearoa New Zealand's histories will be taught in all schools and kura from 2022 onwards. We would like to hear your views on the draft curriculum content. More information and an online survey are available at www.education.govt.nz/aotearoanzhistories

What is the national curriculum?

The national curriculum is a statement of what is considered important in education. It is made of two documents which contain the knowledge, skills and stories all young people must explore. These documents are:

The New Zealand Curriculum - used in English medium schools.

Te Marautanga o Aotearoa - used in some kura (Māori medium schools).

Local curriculum and marau ā-kura

These are documents to help your school or kura shape learning experiences and design a local curriculum or marau ā-kura for your children. The local curriculum or marau ā-kura weaves together the national curriculum content and local content drawn from your community's stories, cultures and aspirations you have for your children.



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Aotearoa New Zealand's histories in *The New Zealand Curriculum* – draft content

Histories is part of the Social Sciences learning area in *The New Zealand Curriculum*. The purpose of the Social Sciences learning area is for students to understand **“how societies work and how they can participate and take action as critical, informed and responsible citizens.”** Aotearoa New Zealand's histories content encourages learners to be thoughtful and responsible to understand the past, to make sense of the present and to inform their future actions.

The histories curriculum content includes ideas (known as 'big ideas') that are specific to Aotearoa New Zealand's histories and themes, which relate to the ideas. It also describes the learning that will help all children and young people to progress in their histories learning.

Te Takanga o te Wā in *Te Marautanga o Aotearoa* – draft content

Te Takanga o Te Wā is an important part of teaching Aotearoa histories. This can be aligned to all areas of learning within *Te Marautanga o Aotearoa*. However, Te Takanga o Te Wā is most explicit within the learning area of Tikanga ā-Iwi.

This has been updated to reflect that all learners should have the opportunity to develop knowledge and understanding of people, places and events that have influenced and shaped Aotearoa New Zealand historically through to the present day.

Te Takanga o Te Wā has been added to sit alongside the existing four strands. This strand provides opportunities for big ideas to be explored. It will support kaiako, teachers and tamariki to expand their knowledge, develop skills and look critically at Aotearoa New Zealand's histories.

The Ministry of Education will be promoting public feedback through multiple channels. Public engagement on the draft curriculum content will run until 31 May 2021. We want to hear from everyone with an interest in how histories is taught in our schools and kura so please provide your feedback before the content is finalised.

There is an online survey for feedback on the content available at www.education.govt.nz/aotearoanzhistories