

# Hallmarks of Excellence for Māori and Pacific learner success



## How can I, as a practitioner, demonstrate hallmarks of excellence for Māori and Pacific learner success?

**1 Believe you can make a difference**  
Effective practitioners believe they can make a positive difference to educational achievement for all learners, including Māori and Pacific learners, accept this as a professional responsibility, and then act on that responsibility.

**2 Build on strengths and address needs**  
Effective practitioners build on strengths and address needs, avoiding attributing difficulties to learner attitudes, focusing instead on developing confidence, motivation, and excitement toward learning.

**3 Recognise it's the quality of your relationships that matters**  
Effective practitioners recognise that the quality of their relationships and interactions with their Māori and Pacific learners plays a vital role in their learners' educational achievement.

**4 Reflect on your own cultural identity**  
Effective practitioners reflect on their own cultural identity in Aotearoa New Zealand and work to enhance the cultural identity and well-being of Māori and Pacific learners.

**5 Be culturally responsive**  
Effective practitioners develop ways of teaching and/or supporting Māori and Pacific learners that are culturally responsive and embedded in relationships of mutual trust and respect.

**6 Reflect on holistic Māori and Pacific practices**  
Effective practitioners reflect on their own Māori and Pacific holistic cultural teaching and/or pastoral care practices.

**7 Set high expectations**  
Effective practitioners set high expectations for Māori and Pacific learners.

**8 Identify Māori and Pacific learners' educational aspirations**  
Effective practitioners identify and address the educational and other aspirations of Māori and Pacific learners.

**9 Modify teaching and support based on learner outcomes**  
Effective practitioners promote, monitor and reflect upon learner outcomes so as to modify their teaching and/or support in ways that lead to improvements in Māori and Pacific learners' achievement.

**10 Take an integrated approach**  
Effective practitioners demonstrate practices underpinned by appropriate and relevant professional values, knowledge and ongoing professional learning and development.

This publication was developed by Dr Damon Whitten and Graeme Smith. For more info and additional resources visit [ako.ac.nz/alnacc](http://ako.ac.nz/alnacc)

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