

The Manako programme: Our impact in 2024

Manako: Foundation-level capability building services provided by Ako Aotearoa, the National Centre for Tertiary Teaching Excellence.

Introduction

The main purpose of the [Manako Briefing Papers](#) in 2024 has been to advise the Minister for Tertiary Education and Skills, by providing up-to-date insights related to tertiary education, targeted information, and expert recommendations. Throughout the year, curated critical insights have been introduced to key stakeholders and the wider tertiary education sector through a selection of Briefing Papers:

- » [Our Manako programme](#)
- » [Strategy and policy](#)
- » [Neurodiversity](#)
- » [Tapatoru](#)
- » [Cultural Capability](#)

Our goal is to be the Minister's trusted foundation education sector capability building advocate and advisor. This briefing paper highlights the impact of the Manako programme during 2024.

Participation and engagement

Professional Learning and Development (PLD) is an important part of the Manako programme.

“Good to have such topics and discussions! This is how to make real change by discussion, education, and support”

Feedback from a PLD participant



Sustainable organisational change is associated with the evaluative feedback's key themes: enhanced collaborative culture, increased capacity for cultural responsiveness, improved teaching practices, motivated and engaged staff, and continual professional development.

Manako and the international community

The Manako programme is internationally recognised through both the [New Zealand Dyslexia-Friendly Quality Mark](#) and the [Library of Congress 2023 Literacy Honoree Award](#).

The Manako programme demonstrates leadership and promotes tertiary teaching excellence to national and international educators through the [Manako Communities of Practice](#), the PLD workshops and courses, resources, and the Manako webinar series.

Manako and research

Manako and the [Ako Aotearoa Research and Innovation Agenda \(AARIA\)](#) together support and promote research, applying thought leadership to research at the frontiers of tertiary education. For example, two current projects explore:

- » [AI in tertiary education](#)
- » [Experiences of dyscalculic learners](#)

Future change and development

2025 sees the development of a new professional learning and development model, as the Manako programme responds to the needs of the sector and educators' voices.

2025 will also see substantial change in tertiary education:

- » The [University Advisory Group](#) will provide the final report to the Ministry of Education in February 2025. Advice from the group is intended to inform policy changes.
- » The [Vocational Education and Training \(VET\) system reform](#) continues, following a consultation period August/September 2024.
- » Funding changes, for example, the [Apprenticeship Boost](#) will only be available for targeted sectors with skill shortages, from 1 January 2025.



The Manako team is ready to support this change. The Manako team is experienced in building the foundation learning capability of the tertiary education sector and remains firm in its integrity and its belief in the importance of a strong foundation in language, literacy, and numeracy (LLN) education, and cultural capability for educators who work with adult learners.

The 2025 Manako Briefing Papers will continue to bring together these diverse tertiary insights, providing succinct and pertinent advice to the Minister for Tertiary Education and Skills, and the tertiary education sector.

