

Media Release

Ako Aotearoa enews special edition to stakeholders 18 March 2026



Kia ora,

We are writing on behalf of Massey University and the Tertiary Education Commission (TEC) on the transition of literacy and numeracy resources, tools and programmes developed or managed formerly by Ako Aotearoa.

Since our update in November, there has been significant progress in the transition of tools and resources, as well as some key decisions on the future of other programmes. Three key updates as follows:

- The Te Whatu Kairangi Tertiary Teaching Excellence Awards recognise achievement across the profession. Given the closure of Ako Aotearoa, the awards have been deferred for 2026. Work is currently underway to identify options for next year and how they can be sustainably run long term. We will come back to you when we have more information to share.
- The Tapatoru professional development framework and practice tool resources and content are already available through the free online literacy and numeracy learning tool, Pathways Awarua.
- The Dyslexia-Friendly Quality mark is currently open for a [Registration of Interest \(ROI\)](#) until 12pm 30 March 2026. It is intended that the intellectual property will be transferred to the successful applicant and that this will continue to be awarded to New Zealand organisations.

Massey University will continue to maintain the Ako Aotearoa website until the end of this year. TEC will then include some of this content on the TEC website. The TEC commitment remains to ensuring access to these tools and resources. Other resources on Ako Aotearoa's website will be transferred to Massey University's website.

Ako Aotearoa's work, and the dedication of the individuals involved, continues to be acknowledged and valued. TEC also remains firmly committed to supporting and developing literacy and numeracy.

Thank you for your continued interest and support as this work progresses.

Ngā mihi (On behalf of)

A handwritten signature in blue ink, appearing to read 'NIVE'.

Nina Ive
Deputy Chief Executive
Tertiary Education Commission

A handwritten signature in blue ink, appearing to read 'Giselle Byrnes'.

Professor Giselle Byrnes
Provost
Massey University