Nā āheitanga ā-mātauranga, ko angitū ā-ākonga
Building educational capability for learner success
Ako Aotearoa holds a vital place in Aotearoa New Zealand’s tertiary education sector. We are an agent of change for quality teaching and learner success.

We are committed to enhancing the quality of teaching and learning across tertiary-level education. Our work aims to strengthen how educators and their organisations deliver high quality provision for all learners.

Keeping a clear focus on life-long and life-wide learning, we partner and collaborate with tertiary organisations, Government departments, wider industry and workplaces to prioritise educational and cultural capability building.

Ako Aotearoa values learners as partners. We advocate that diverse learners are not only supported but actively recognised as partners and leaders in their education journey - wherever they choose to learn across our tertiary system.

This is reflected in Koronga Rautaki Mahitahi, our Shared Strategic Agenda (see page 8) where we invite all key parties - Government agencies, tertiary organisations, teachers - to work with us and learners to build a better future for tertiary learners, their whānau, communities and our country’s success.

Read more about Ā Mātou Mahi | Our Work on page 12.
Pūmautanga
We are a trusted and credible advocate for tertiary teaching and learning excellence and the best possible educational outcomes for all learners. With our expertise and experience, we lead from the front and alongside to grow and share knowledge, inspire tertiary educators and strengthen sector capability.

Māramatanga
We are insightful, with a sound understanding of the tertiary sector and an independent voice. We foster innovation to help transform Aotearoa New Zealand’s tertiary sector in a rapidly changing world.

Whakamanatanga
We seek to empower. We are guided by Te Tiriti o Waitangi and our Te Tāuakī Ako framework in our journey to become a bicultural organisation.

Awhitanga
We are inclusive. We value and enable diversity, equity and success for all learners, particularly Māori and Pasifika, and the people who support them across our dynamic tertiary sector.

Whanaungatanga
We value our relationships. We work with others through positive, productive partnerships by sharing knowledge and expertise to contribute towards shared goals. We collaborate with educators, learners, communities and industry leaders to generate innovative and sustainable solutions to achieve success for all learners.
Koronga Rautaki Mahitahi
Shared Strategic Agenda

Our shared strategic agenda for the tertiary sector, educators, learners and their communities, has been created within an Aotearoa New Zealand context, so that it drives lasting impact for and with our stakeholders to advantage the nation.

He aha ngā tūmanako o Aotearoa mai i te wāhanga mātauranga tuatoru?

What is New Zealand strongly seeking from the tertiary education sector?

He aha ngā uara hei whakaūnga mō Ako Aotearoa mō tēnei rautaki?

What values will Ako Aotearoa uphold when implementing this strategy?

He aha rawa te tino ahunga mō Ako Aotearoa?

What achievements does the tertiary education sector want to progress for the nation?

He aha ngā whāinga nui mā te wāhanga mātauranga tuatoru, hei painga mō Aotearoa?

What must Ako Aotearoa strive to become?

1. Lifelong learning journeys to attain the best possible outcomes.
   - A range of valuable tertiary education options that are customised, personalised, accessible and that provide holistic skill sets and innovative thinking. Cultural centredness is fundamental to these options.
   - Contributing long term and sustainable benefits to the wider community through enhanced tertiary teaching, positive learner experiences and equitable learner outcomes.
   - Education for economic, social, cultural and environmental benefits.

2. The tertiary education sector is an agent of change for learner success through collaboration instead of competition.
   - The tertiary education sector builds its capability through professional standards, to enable educators to self assess and direct their professional learning.
   - The tertiary education system values learner experiences and voices to establish learners as partners.

3. We create a New Zealand where Māori, Pākehā, Pacific Peoples and migrant groups are equal citizens with equal rights and the ability to participate and contribute to New Zealand society.

4. Ehara taku toa i te toa takitahi, he toa takitini
   - My strength is not as an individual but as part of the collective

PARTNERSHIP

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Ako Aotearoa - Our Future

TERTIARY EDUCATION TRANSFORMS OUR LIVES

PARCIPATION & CONTRIBUTION TO OUR SOCIETY

LEARNERS

LIFELONG LEARNING

ADVOCACY

PARTNERSHIP

ECONOMIC

COMMUNITY

CULTURE

ENVIRONMENT

BETTER OUTCOMES

PARTNERSHIP

ALL EDUCATORS

ARE DUAL PROFESSIONALS
He Takunetanga nō te Tau 2020 | Some Highlights of Our Work in 2020 —

Professional Learning and Development went digital
1021 people attended our online PLD programme, plus free webinars and ‘Ako Talks’*

*Live sessions and pre-recorded videos about our projects.

Tertiary Teaching Excellence Awards online ceremony
7460 Facebook views of TTEA
9 Awardees announcement
51 online zoom ceremony attendees
134 watched via YouTube
760 total views of ceremony on YouTube to date
502 views of Supreme Award winner announcement clip

Digital Badging
365 digital badges have been awarded to participants of our professional learning and development programme and uptake is continuing to grow

Our website builds capability
159,234 unique webpage views (to Sept 2020)
18,364 downloads from the Knowledge Centre of 1200+ free teaching and learning resources
www.ako.ac.nz

Communities of Practice
We facilitate groups centred on teaching and learning to support emerging demands:
Neurodiversity – 82 members
Adult Literacy, Numeracy and Cultural Capability – 325 members
Online together – 419 members

Qualifications Review
As lead developers we successfully reviewed 11 pre-degree tertiary teaching qualifications and identified strategies to better support the sector

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Our new business plan (2021-2023) is built around five Strategic Goals linked to the United Nations Sustainable Development Goals and our core values.

The following government agency strategies also guide our work: the Tertiary Education Strategy, Ka Hikitia – Ka Hāpaitia, Tau Mai Te Reo, Takiala Pasifika, Te Kökiritanga and the Action Plan for Pacific Education 2020-2030.

Strategic Goal One
Te Tiriti o Waitangi guides all that we do as we seek to be a leading body for the tertiary sector in a diverse Aotearoa New Zealand.

Strategic Goal Two
Leading change in teaching and learning excellence and educational capability.

Strategic Goal Three
Valuing learners as partners – their diverse voices, experiences and aspirations.

Strategic Goal Four
Tackling racism and bias wherever it occurs with strengths-based approaches to improve educational outcomes for Māori and Pacific Peoples.

Strategic Goal Five
Building language, literacy, numeracy and cultural capability in foundation and bridging education and workplace learning.

We would like to acknowledge the ongoing support of our host institution – Massey University. Since 2007, Ako Aotearoa has been hosted by Massey University under funding agreements with the Tertiary Education Commission.

We value the ongoing relationships we have with our partners and other stakeholders:
Tertiary Education Commission
Ministry of Education
New Zealand Qualifications Authority
Ngā Pae o te Māramatanga
The Ako Aotearoa Academy of Tertiary Teaching Excellence
Advance HE
Te Pūkenga/New Zealand Institute of Skills and Technology
New Zealand Union of Students Associations
Te Mana Ākonga
Pasifika Tauira
ACE Aotearoa
Pathways Awarua
AUT University
Academic Quality Agency
Our People Capability Framework
We are taking a strategic approach to build and develop our people. This centres around a single, transparent, focused and cohesive Capability Framework. Through this, we clearly articulate what success looks like and enable a shared understanding of the capabilities our organisation needs to achieve its goals and objectives.

Core Capabilities – The following nine core capabilities provide the bones of this framework. These are capabilities that every team member must own and be able to articulate, and leaders must model:

— Te Tiriti Approach
— Integrity and Trust
— Customer Focus
— Communication
— Culturally Responsive
— Planning and Organising
— Information Handling and Digital Literacy
— Resilience and Wellbeing
— Develop Our Own Expertise

It is vital that our People Capability Framework remains relevant to meet the current and future needs for Ako Aotearoa, and accordingly the content will be reconsidered and refreshed as required in conjunction with the organisation's strategic priorities.

Whakapā Mai | Contact Us
We provide high quality support and advocacy to the diverse tertiary education sector in Aotearoa New Zealand.

Please get in touch if you would like further information about Ako Aotearoa and how we can assist you around tertiary teaching and learning.

Visit our website – www ako.ac.nz – to download free teaching and learning resources, find out about professional learning opportunities, access guidelines for the annual Tertiary Teaching Excellence Awards, download Adult Literacy, Numeracy and Cultural Capability resources, and sign up to receive our e-newsletter.

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