

Grow Waitaha Overview

Tau Tahi, Tipu Tahi - Collaborating Together, Learning Together

Our Vision

Grow Waitaha's vision is for ākonga/students to engage with innovative, connected, collaborative and responsive teaching, learning experiences, pathways and environments. Grow Waitaha 'grows' our learners by harnessing a wealth of expertise across the region; creating connections and supporting collaborations across schools and the community.

About us

Many schools in Canterbury are being rebuilt — completely or partially — after the earthquakes. Building new learning spaces means rethinking the learning environments and ways of learning in these spaces. Grow Waitaha is supporting schools through this process of change. These changes will enable Māori to achieve success as Māori and all ākonga/students to thrive as learners and as citizens locally, nationally, globally, now and in the future.

Grow Waitaha is a partnership between Mātauraka Mahaanui (on behalf of Ngāi Tahu), the Ministry of Education (MOE), four consultancies, schools and their communities.

Grow Waitaha began working with schools in February 2016 and will continue to adapt and develop initiatives based on emerging needs over the next 3 years of the rebuild programme. Both those schools in the MOE Rebuild programme and all schools in New Zealand are able to benefit from this system-wide, collaborative approach.

How

Nine key areas of transformation are emerging and Grow Waitaha has developed an evaluative framework enabling schools to select and plan a sequence of priority actions.

Shared vision	Diverse perspectives and partnerships	Leadership of change
Collaborative approach to learning	Student agency and engagement	Flexible learning spaces
Authentic curriculum	Cultural integrity	Student and staff wellbeing

"It's been a tremendous opportunity to meet with colleagues who are much further down the road than we are. Growing a culture of collaboration as opposed to competition has been refreshing for the staff involved."

- Principal

Who's been involved?





800+ Individual leaders and teachers



8,000+ People hours of interaction

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Why: To support schools to lead their own transformation process.

How: A 'navigator' assigned to a school throughout the duration of their rebuild process, supports the leadership team to map and plan their development needs. This includes stakeholder engagement to inform the writing of an Education Brief that values and reflects the school's cultural narrative. The Evaluative framework (outlined on page 1) is used to guide each stage through this process through master planning to construction and finally implementing learning in these new spaces.



Why: To support schools to explore, test and refine their ideas as they develop new spaces, pedagogies and cultures for learning. To connect, network and collaborate across schools.

How: A range of free opportunities are designed based on needs identified by the sector. These include Forum, Eduhui, Design Hacks, Meetups, school tours, Communities of Practice, Secondary Incubator and many customised opportunities targeted to specific schools.



Why: To monitor progress and provide evaluative data to inform the overall development of Grow Waitaha.



Why: To collect, collate and share innovative knowledge and practices that have been developed throughout education in Canterbury. To extend the sustainability of impact of the educational transformation in Canterbury to other schools, regions and countries.

How: Website, newsletters, videos, stories – case studies of educators and schools, social media including Facebook, Instagram, Twitter and www.growwaitaha.co.nz.