

Te Reo Māori – The Māori Language of New Zealand
Origins, aspirations and current state of revitalisation of Māori in Aotearoa New Zealand

This session will begin with a brief history of Aotearoa New Zealand and background to the Māori language. The discussion will include an overview of New Zealand's founding document, The Treaty of Waitangi, an agreement between Māori and the British Crown, which established New Zealand as a self-governing nation. The Treaty plays a key role in New Zealand legislation. It was the foundation for the Māori language rights and protest movement in the 1970s which eventually led to the establishment of kōhanga reo ('Language Nests') in the 1980s as a means of reviving the Māori language and culture. We look at the philosophy, curriculum and benefits of kōhanga and kura kaupapa Māori (Māori-medium schools) where Māori culture, a Māori world-view and the Māori language play a key role in the political exercise of re-affirming, normalising and valuing Māori language and cultural practices for the health and well-being of indigenous children and their families.

Readings:

King, J. (2001). Te Kohanga Reo: Māori language revitalization. In L. Hinton and K. Hale. (Eds.) *The Green Book of Language Revitalization in Practice* (pp. 119-128). San Diego: Academic Press.

Tawhiwhirangi, I. (2014). Kua tū tangata e! Moving a critical mass. In R. Higgins, P. Rewi & V. Olsen-Reeder. (Eds.) *The value of the Māori language: te hua o te reo Māori* (pp. 33-52). Wellington: Huia.

Additional Material:

May, S., & Hill, R. (2005). Maori-medium education: current issues and challenges. *The International Journal of Bilingual Education and Bilingualism*, 8(5), 377-403.

New Zealand Gazette. (2008). Official version of Te Aho Matua o ngā Kura Kaupapa Māori and an explanation in English: Pursuant to Section 155a of The Education Act 1989. *New Zealand Gazette* (32), 733-746.

Takao, N., Grennell, D., McKegg, K., & Wehipeihana, N. (2010). *Te piko o te mahuri: the key attributes of successful kura kaupapa Māori*. Wellington: Research Division Ministry of Education. Retrieved from https://www.educationcounts.govt.nz/__data/assets/pdf_file/0005/81158/954-KWA-English-21092010.pdf