

# Ngāti Hauā Hāpaitia Te Reo

He mahere reo mō te  
kāinga

*Kāhui: Tainui*





## INTRODUCTION

As part of Te Mātāwai's support in revitalising te reo throughout Aotearoa, we are showcasing some of the kaupapa kaitono have been doing in Tainui. Tiare Teinakore and Lisa Gardiner sat down with us to kōrero about a kaupapa reo held by Ngāti Hauā, and tell us a little bit about what they've been up to.

## HE AHA TE KAUPAPA WHAKARAUORA REO?

Ngāti Hauā held a wānanga reo for their mātua and whānau, called 'Hāpaitia Te Reo.' With the overarching kaupapa of supporting parents to kōrero reo Māori with their tamariki, Hāpaitia Te Reo helped whānau to develop customised reo plans and strategies for use within the home. "So we brought all the parents together", explained Tiare, "with over 100 whānau members. We wanted to... support our mātua with a way to create a Māori language strategy for their homes." The reo plans were tailored to the specific context of each individual whānau, and included strategies such as 'every time we go on the waka, we kōrero Māori', or 'we only speak te reo in the kitchen.' These tangible, easily graspable goals gave whānau structure in their daily lives to incorporate reo Māori at times and spaces that suited them as a whānau.

Delivered in 2019, Hāpaitia Te Reo was held over a weekend for mātua to attend. The wānanga included reo champions such as Stacey and Scotty Morrison, who shared with





whānau how they might implement te reo within the home. Kirstin Ross, of the Pipi Mā Māori speaking dolls, also attended, and ran a workshop with mātua on how to play games with their tamariki in te reo. In bringing together whānau from across their rohe, the wānanga also created communities of reo speakers, geographically clustered in the satellite towns whānau were based in. “So [the whānau clusters] all created separate Facebook pages for themselves”, described Tiare, “and they share resources, pānui, and even get together to whakapakari tinana. But all this is under the idea that when they get together, they kōrero Māori.” Funding through the Tainui Kāhui helped run the wānanga, and Ngāti Hauā are intending on applying in future funding rounds to continue with their various kaupapa reo.



Hāpaitia Te Reo falls within the broader reach of Ngāti Hauā’s reo revitalisation strategy. Entitled ‘Hauā Reo, Hauā Tangata’, the strategy emphasises both the centrality of strengthening the Ngāti Hauā dialect, and the fusion of people, culture and reo: “the language and its people are one.” The aspirational goal of Hauā Reo, Hauā Tangata envisions 75% of Ngāti Hauā are fluent in their own reo ā-iwi by 2040.

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*“The key message from our whānau was that they didn’t want to just learn Māori, but te reo Māori o Ngāti Hauā.”*

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The strategy, born out of wānanga with whānau of Ngāti Hauā, is anchored by a number of pou. These include:

- Whakatupu Tāngata: Developing reo Māori capability within Ngāti Hauā whānau



- Whakatupu Rangahau: Increasing research related to te reo o Ngāti Hauā
- Whakatupu Hangarau: Developing technologies that support the nurturing of te reo o Ngāti Hauā
- Whakatupu Hononga: Building and maintaining relationships with other iwi and reo Māori stakeholders
- Whakatupu Mātua: Increasing reo Māori capability within parents, to support intergenerational transmission of te reo o Ngāti Hauā

“We knew there was a strong capacity in our young people [with te reo], but a real gap in our mātua”, described Lisa, and this is why Whakatupu Mātua is a dedicated pou within



the Hauā Reo, Hauā Tangata. Hāpaitia Te Reo was tethered directly to this pou, as well as Whakatupu Tāngata, through the development of customised reo Māori plans for whānau, and Whakatupu Hononga, in collaborating with reo Māori champions to share learnings. These considerations, for Tiare, are what ‘kia ūkaipō anō te reo’ looks like in practice at the iwi-, hapū-, and whānau-level.

## WHAT ARE THE LESSONS YOU’VE LEARNED?

When we asked, “He aha ngā hua e puta mai ana?”, Lisa and Tiare spoke of the “general confidence” that’s emerging within Ngāti Hauā to speak te reo. Significant strides are being made, and “whānau are becoming more active in their reo spaces... they have the desire and momentum to undertake their own [reo-based] activities.” As Lisa continued:





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*“The momentum hasn’t died off. Our people are still hungry for more.”*

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One of the things Lisa and Tiare found challenging, however, was the online application process for submitting funding proposals through Te Mātāwai. They felt it could be better streamlined, and made easier for kaitono to fill in and complete. For kaitono looking to apply, Tiare emphasised the need to:

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*“...make a really strong link between your kaupapa, your Kāhui’s reo investment plan, and the overall goal of ‘ūkaipō anō te reo’. Ensuring alignment with the bigger strategies is really important.”*

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This will help the assessment panel see how kaitono projects fit in with the aims and aspirations of both the Kāhui and Te Mātāwai.

## WHAT ARE YOUR FUTURE ASPIRATIONS FOR TE REO MĀORI?

Looking to the future, Lisa and Tiare return to Hauā Reo, Hauā Tangata, and the vision of seeing 75% of Ngāti Hauā fluent in their reo ā-iwi by 2040.

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*“That’s the driving force for all of this. We want to keep delivering events and kaupapa that will advance us to our overall goal.”*

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