WHIRIA NGĀ RAU | PROGRESSING FROM STUDENT VOICE TO PARTNERSHIPS

Akoranga

Learning with and from each other

The concept of ako, learning from and with each other, is key to progressing from student voice to partnerships.

We'd like to work with providers to make sure that information is widely and easily accessible, to make sure there is time for tauira to get ready to contribute and participate in decisions. We'd like to help providers get through to students in ways that work for both of us, and suggest ways to reach more of us.

We want to know what information providers are gathering from us, how useful it is, and what impact it has on decisions.

We are ambitious for strong, ongoing, trusting student-provider partnerships where there is genuine commitment to grow, learn and work together.

"Say what we'll do to help each other and stick to the promise - or explain why that isn't possible." "Providers do not need to carry all responsibility to convene and facilitate hui, gather data, and provide feedback. Tauira are keen to take on these roles with support from providers."

"Tauira and providers can canvas each other's perspectives on student voice – capture and report what is learned from this exercise and let people know what difference it will make."

"We can show providers and other tauira what racial bias looks like, and work together on ways to address and eliminate it." **Akoranga:** We'll know we're successful in learning from and with each other when tauira and providers:

- » Learn with and from each other
- » Work openly and transparently
- » Know what is expected of each other and stay motivated to continue the relationship
- » Learn to shape the relationship, measure progress, and reflect on improvements
- » Maintain feedback loops with diverse groups of learners and report back regularly.

Some ways for tauira and providers to make **Akoranga** real are:

- » Develop an institutional expectation that student voice is consulted and used to influence decision-making.
- » Design resources for new tauira and new kaiako that highlight the importance of student voice.
- » Train tauira and kaiako to host open, diverse hui that are accessible, use gender appropriate language and where sensitive issues are handled with respect.
- » Canvas each other's perspectives on student voice - capture and report what is learned from this exercise and let people know what difference it will make.
- » Develop and update partnership agreements that set out how to learn from and with each other.
- » Create imaginative ways for tauira from different cohorts and backgrounds to regularly share their expertise as a student now.
- » Review how visible student voice is in induction and handover material for new tauira and new kaiako.
- » Share research on good national and international examples of strengthening student voice.

- » Attend seminars and conferences together.
- » Prepare joint presentations or articles on student voice.
- » Have tauira from different cohorts, programmes and backgrounds regularly share their expertise on what it's like to be a student.
- » Support students to create sustainable group models to ensure student health and mental wellbeing.
- » Invite feedback from community networks about how well the voices of tauira are being heard.
- » Show what racial bias looks like, and work together on ways to address and eliminate it.
- » Different parts of the institution come together with tauira to identify gaps in student voice and work on improvement.
- » Make sure feedback from diverse tauira is captured and returned promptly
- » Explain how feedback is respected, valued, and acted on.
- » Set up some way to monitor standards of accuracy and timeliness.

Whiria ngā rau

Progressing from student voice to partnerships

The Whiria Ngā Rau framework has four rau that tauira (students) and providers can use to build partnerships:

Whakapakari

Strengthening students' voices

- » Build capability and confidence to express learner voice
- » Develop ways of working that fit the learning environment
- » Receive and pass on lessons from previous cohorts
- » Make plans and offers to express student voice.

Akoranga

Learning with and from each other

- » Work openly and transparently
- » Know what is expected of each other and stay motivated to continue the relationship
- » Learn to shape the relationship, measure progress, and reflect on improvements
- » Maintain feedback loops and report regularly.

Whakawhanaungatanga

Building connections with each other

- » Engage in ways that honour Te Tiriti
- » Involve and hear diverse tauira in decision-making
- » Share information
- » Grow relationships and extend networks.

Mahitahi

Working together

- » Give practical effect to Te Tiriti
- » Develop ideas and solutions together
- » Shape engagements together and build routines to embed student voice
- » There are tuakana-teina relationships and roles can be reversed at any time.

Whiria = weave

Rau = leaf









