



Te Tiriti Partnership Policy

Version	2.0	Board sign off date	04 Dec 2024
Status	FINAL	Next Review	Dec 2026

Introduction

Since its establishment in 2010, Ara Taiohi was formed as a Tiriti-based organisation. As a part of this commitment, Ara Taiohi acknowledges that Te Tiriti o Waitangi is a vital part of making this happen while fulfilling our responsibilities to tāngata whenua (the people of the land) and tāngata tiriti (the people of Te Tiriti) in Aotearoa New Zealand.

1. Purpose

- 1.1.** To define the commitment of Ara Taiohi to honouring Te Tiriti o Waitangi in all aspects of our work.
- 1.2.** To provide clear guidance for Ara Taiohi board, staff, and advisory rūpū on our commitment to embodying Te Tiriti in our mahi and practice.
- 1.3.** To align the kaupapa of Ara Taiohi with Te Tiriti o Waitangi

2. Scope

- 2.1.** Applies to all staff, board members, contractors, and volunteers at Ara Taiohi. This includes all those involved in governance and management.
- 2.2.** While the primary audience for the policy is internal and organisational, we acknowledge the impact will reach taiohi and the broader youth sector.

3. Policy

- 3.1.** Ara Taiohi acknowledges Te Tiriti o Waitangi as the founding document of Aotearoa New Zealand, central to the relationship between the rangatira who signed Te Tiriti and the Crown. We recognise Te Tiriti as a foundational agreement that should shape the values, rights, and responsibilities of all people in Aotearoa New Zealand.
- 3.2.** Ara Taiohi acknowledges the foundational role of He Whakaputanga (1835 Declaration of Independence) affirming the sovereignty and autonomy of tāngata whenua. We understand its relevance to Te Tiriti o Waitangi, affirming Māori tino rangatiratanga as foundational to the understanding of Te Tiriti partnership.
- 3.3.** Ara Taiohi acknowledges the four articles of Te Tiriti o Waitangi as fundamental guiding articles that shape all that we do.
 - 3.3.1.** The first article, Kāwanatanga, affirms the Crown's right to kāwanatanga within Aotearoa, and acknowledges our responsibility to work in partnership with Tāngata Whenua to ensure that governance structures respect tino rangatiratanga in the youth development sector.



- 3.3.2. The second article, Tino Rangatiratanga,** guarantees tāngata whenua tino rangatiratanga over their whenua, kainga, and taonga katoa. We recognise the importance of kāwanatanga and tino rangatiratanga working together to empower taiohi, youth development organisations, and communities to lead and shape youth development in Aotearoa.
- 3.3.3. The third article, Ōritetanga,** promises tāngata whenua equality of rights and protection. We are committed to actively addressing the disparities faced by Tāngata Whenua due to colonisation, ensuring they have equitable access to opportunities and support as Tāngata Tiriti.
- 3.3.4. The fourth article, Whakapono & Ritenga Māori,** affirms the active and equal protection of whakapono and ritenga Māori, ensuring that they are equally respected and safeguarded.
- 3.4. Ara Taiohi will integrate Te Tiriti into all policies and procedure** to ensure that all policies, strategies, and activities at Ara Taiohi will uphold and honour Te Tiriti o Waitangi.
- 3.5. Ara Taiohi will ensure vital roles within the organisation are maintained and supported** for the advancement of Te Tiriti o Waitangi to be woven into all that we do.
- Specifically, this includes:**
- The Kaihautū
 - The Kaimahi of Ngā Kaihoe
 - The Ngā Kaihoe Kaiārahi
 - The Kaumatua/Māori Elders

4. Responsibilities

- 4.1. Ara Taiohi will regularly observe and evaluate the effectiveness of our mahi and initiatives in relation to Te Tiriti o Waitangi,** ensuring we are meeting our obligations and delivering positive outcomes for Māori taiohi, the youth sector, and the youth development sector for Aotearoa New Zealand
- Specifically, this includes:**
- The Board
 - The Senior Leadership Team
 - The Kaiārahi

5. Supporting Documents

- Ara Taiohi Constitution
- Ara Taiohi Te Tiriti Action Plan
- Ara Taiohi Tikanga
- Ngā Kaihoe Strategic Plan