



Teaching Council | Matatū Aotearoa role, and te Whare o Matatū for the Strategic Plan 2022-2027:

The Teaching Council | Matatū Aotearoa is the professional body representing teachers | kaiako in early childhood education, primary, and secondary schooling.

We ensure quality teaching and high standards by registering teachers | kaiako, setting and maintaining professional standards, and ensuring teachers | kaiako are competent and fit to practice. The Teaching Council of Aotearoa New Zealand is the professional body for teachers | kaiako.

We work with and for around 150,000 registered and certificated teachers | kaiako in New Zealand, in early childhood, primary, and secondary schooling, and in English and Māori medium settings.

The purpose of the Teaching Council | Matatū is to ensure safe and high-quality leadership, teaching and learning for children and young people. We do this by ensuring teachers | kaiako are competent, fit to practice and accountable for the way they teach.

Our functions are set out in legislation and we are funded by the fees that teachers | kaiako pay to be registered and certificated, and may undertake other tasks as directed by the Minister of Education (funded separately).

Many professional bodies in New Zealand play a solely regulatory function for their members but the Teaching Council | Matatū Aotearoa is more than just a regulatory body. Teaching Council functions are expressly set out in the Education and Training Act 2020. Specifically, our core responsibilities are:

- to provide direction for teachers
- to enhance the status of teachers
- to identify and disseminate best practice in teaching and foster the teaching profession's continued development in light of research and evidence of changes in society and technology
- to carry out the functions relating to teacher registration
- to establish and maintain any criteria for teacher registration that the Teaching Council considers necessary or desirable, and to review, vary, or delete the criteria for teacher registration
- to establish and maintain standards for qualifications that lead to teacher registration and to review, vary, or delete the standards for qualifications
- to conduct, in conjunction with quality assurance agencies, approvals of teacher education programmes
- to establish and maintain:
 - standards for ongoing practice
 - criteria for the issue of practising certificates of different kinds
- to establish and maintain a code of conduct for teachers
- to monitor and enforce the requirements relating to mandatory reporting
- to perform the disciplinary functions relating to teacher misconduct and reports of teacher convictions
- to set the criteria for reporting serious misconduct and for reporting on competence issues

- to perform the functions relating to teacher competence
- to co-ordinate a system providing for the vetting by the Police of all teachers
- to perform any other functions conferred on it by the Education and Training Act 2020 or any other enactment.

All of these functions are now funded by fees and levies – not just the registration and certification functions.

The Minister of Education may also approve (and fund) additional work in the following areas:

- to provide leadership to the education profession
- to enhance the status of education leaders
- to identify and disseminate best practice in education leadership.

The Teaching Council | Matatū Aotearoa is one part of the education system and we work closely with teachers | kaiako, leaders, education academics, the Ministry of Education, unions, associations, and other education organisations.

Who are we? We are you

Our Governing Council includes seven members elected by and from the teaching profession, and six appointed by the Minister of Education. The majority are practicing teachers | kaiako, leaders, educators, or principals who are connected daily to teaching. They bring their knowledge, networks, and passion for teaching and learning with them to their role around the Board table. Find out more here: [Meet the Council](#).

The Governing Council is supported by an executive leadership team and around 100 staff, some of whom are also teachers | kaiako, leaders, principals, educators, researchers or have a background in the wider education profession. They bring a wide range of experience and knowledge to their roles. [Meet the Leadership Team](#).

Together the Governing Council, Executive and staff work to facilitate the profession to lead the profession by being engaged in the key work required of us.

Te whare o te Matatū is the mauri stone for the Strategic Plan

Te Tiriti o Waitangi is the founding document for Aotearoa New Zealand, setting out the terms of the relationship between Tangata Whenua and Tangata Tiriti.

Te Whare o Matatū reflects how these relationships are woven through our work. The whare belongs to the teaching profession and reflects the interests of both Tiriti partners – Tangata Whenua and Tangata Tiriti (represented by the two maihi or barge boards at the front of the whare). The koruru (carved gable mask) represents the forward-looking nature of a strategic plan, reminding us to be alert and responsive. The amo (the two carved supports for the maihi) capture the priorities, goals, and actions outlined in the Strategic Plan.

The Strategic Plan is expanded upon within the whare, where it finds expression in different workstreams (represented within each pou). In this sense, the whare acts as the mauri stone or life-force of the Strategic Plan.

This consultation on a refreshed Strategic Plan is a good opportunity to introduce another element to Te Whare o Matatū – the miromiro. The miromiro is a small forest-dwelling bird known for its keen eyesight and quick movements, “he karu miromiro” (has eyes as good as a miromiro). Miromiro are often seen as messengers or go-betweens – the bearers of news, sharing knowledge, seeing challenges ahead, and sharing words of advice or wisdom.

Te Whare o te Matatū Aotearoa - the House of the Teaching Profession



You will see the miromiro on the two outspread maihi | barge boards, reminding us that the miromiro will be heard by Tangata Whenua and Tangata Tiriti. Miromiro can support our manuhiri, giving advice and encouragement as they go about their work. They can be scouts for Tangata Whenua, alerting them to the interests of an in-coming group. They are connectors and communicators.

The whare is held up by ngā pou o te whare | the pillars of the house, which represent the work needed for a strong and effective profession. The four pou represent the values of the teaching profession and the Council:

- **whakamana** – empowering all learners to reach their highest potential by providing high-quality teaching and leadership
- **manaakitanga** – creating a welcoming, caring, and creative learning environment that treats everyone with respect and dignity
- **pono** – showing integrity by acting in ways that are fair, honest, ethical, and just
- **whanaungatanga** – engaging in positive and collaborative relationships with our learners, their families and whānau, our colleagues, and the wider community.

These pou remind everyone who enters the whare of our collective primary purpose – to do all that we can together so tamariki and rangatahi have the right support to achieve their aspirations and those of their whānau and communities. As with any structure, each part, big or small, has a role to play in ensuring stability and endurance.

Elements of Te Whare o te Matatū Aotearoa



Within the whare there are six other pou that represent our work to support you, the teaching profession, to be self-managing, taking collective responsibility for what is needed for high-quality teaching, learning and leadership. They also represent the functions we are legislatively mandated to undertake on the profession's behalf. These six pou are:

- **Pou Aro Whakamua** – steering the future direction of teaching
- **Pou Whai Rēhitanga** – becoming registered and certificated as a teacher | kaiako
- **Pou Tikanga Matatika, Ngā Paerewa** – establishing and maintaining the Code of Professional Responsibility | Ngā Tikanga Matatika mō te Haepapa Ngaiotanga and the Standards for the Teaching Profession | Ngā Paerewa mō te Umanga Whakaakoranga
- **Pou Here Tōmua** – establishing and maintaining standards for initial teacher | kaiako education and undertaking Initial Teacher Education programme approvals
- **Pou Matatika** – ensuring high standards of ethical behaviour
- **Pou Mataara** – ensuring high-quality teacher | kaiako practice.

These six pou are in the whare because they are the responsibility of the teaching profession. The Code | Ngā Tikanga Matatika and Standards | Ngā Paerewa, initial teacher | kaiako education, competence and conduct processes, and of course, registration and certification. Who better to determine what is best for the profession, than the members of the profession itself?

This consultation process is an opportunity to contribute to decisions about how best to support the work of upholding the whare | your profession, by contributing your thoughts and ideas about what should be in our strategic plan.



**Teaching
Council of
Aotearoa
New Zealand**

Visit: Level 11, 7 Waterloo Quay, Pipitea, Wellington 6011, NZ

Post: PO Box 5326, Wellington 6140, NZ

Phone: +64 (0) 4 471 0852

Email: enquiries@teachingcouncil.nz