



youth service
ratonga taiohi

ratonga taiohi pānui

what you need to know

Rāpare 17 Mahuru 2026

Thursday 17 September 2026



**MINISTRY OF SOCIAL
DEVELOPMENT**
TE MANATŪ WHAKAHIATO ORA

TE WIKI O TE REO MĀORI 14–20 HEPETEMA 2026

Māori Language Week

reomaori.co.nz

14–20 September 2026



TE REO

TOWNS



AKE AKE AKE
A FOREVER LANGUAGE
KIA KAHŌ TE REO MĀORI



TE TAURA WHIRI
I TE REO MĀORI



our whakataukāi and waiata from whaea pania

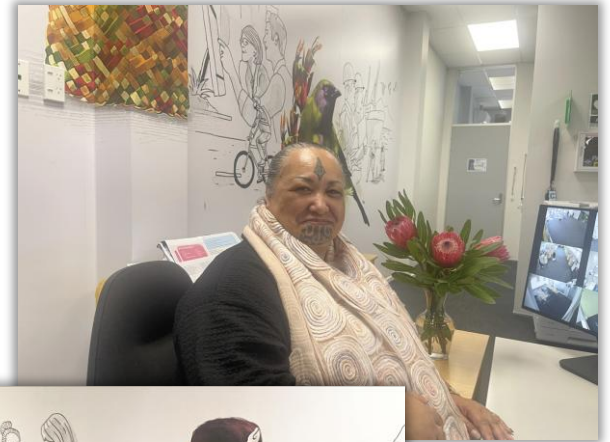
an introduction to the creator of the waiata and whakataukāi of ratonga taiohi

Our whakataukāi – tau awitia ke taiohi, ka puta ki te wheiao (Realising the dreams and aspirations of youth) – is at the centre of all of our work.

Along with our waiata, Tōku Ake, it was gifted to us by Whaea Pania Houkamau-Ngaheu (Ngāti Porou, Tūhoe) who has recently been honoured with the King's Service Medal for her outstanding contribution to the community.

Read about her mahi that led to receiving the award here: [King's Birthday Honours 2026 | DPMC](#)

Whaea Pania has also served across the Wellington Region through her work at MSD for over two decades. Fittingly, she says of her work *"I'm in community, by community, for community."*



Learn the waiata and the whakataukāi
[our waiata | introduction to ratonga taiohi](#)



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youth service experience survey



we use the survey to measure how satisfied taiohi are with the service

Every quarter, we measure how satisfied taiohi are with Youth Service through the Youth Experience survey. This relates to one of our performance measures – *have a positive experience with the Youth Service*.

what you need to do

Encourage taiohi to fill in the survey. You could tell them:

- the feedback they give is used to improve the service and celebrate youth coaches doing great work
- yes, we do read every comment
- taiohi who fill in the survey go in the draw to win a \$50 prezzy card
- to visit www.youthservice.govt.nz/feedback.

Taiohi can access the survey via email or the link: <https://www.youthservice.govt.nz/feedback>
The survey will close on 21 September 2026.



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drop-in recap: te wiki o te reo māori

kia kaha te korero māori!

This week from 14-20 September we celebrate Te Wiki O Te Reo Māori. Tāone Reo Māori – Te Reo Towns is this year's focus, a celebration of the communities who have kept te reo Māori alive, and an invitation for all of Aotearoa to help it flourish into the future. By 2040, the vision is to have one million speakers of Te Reo Māori in Aotearoa!



AKE AKE AKE
A FOREVER LANGUAGE
KIA KAHA TE REO MĀORI

How can we get there:

- Strengthen everyday use of Te Reo Māori
- Support learning in schools and communities
- Celebrate Te Reo as part of Aotearoa's identity
- Learn your pepeha
- Integrate kupu Māori everyday.



This week's challenge we put out

Send a video of you doing your pepeha or a hearty pukana and you could be in to win a Youth Service bottle, pens and paper pads!

Get sending to YStraining@msd.govt.nz

Useful resources and podcasts for your reo needs:

- Ako Tahi app
- Te Taura Whiri i te Reo Māori
- Kupu app (for translations)
- Whare Kōrero app
- Taringa Podcast
- Everyday Māori Podcast



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upcoming drop-in sessions

drop-in to meet other youth coaches and learn about youth service



youth service plans

Tuesday 22 September, 10am

Come join us as we'll go over:

- what a Youth Service plan is
- what needs to be in a Youth Service plan
- how often it needs to be reviewed and uploaded into ART.



[Join the Teams meeting](#)

emergency housing activities and responsibilities

Tuesday 29 September, 10am

When a young person is in emergency housing they have responsibilities and they need to set activities that they need to complete before their next grant.

YSSU will join us to cover:

- what these are
- how to make good activities
- and more.



[Join the Teams meeting](#)

We've added the drop-in sessions for the rest of the year to the Youth Service website.
Have a look at what's coming up: [Drop-in sessions](#) | [Youth Service providers](#)



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realising the dreams and aspirations of youth

tau awhitia te taiohi, ka puta ki te wheiao

providers.youthservice.govt.nz

national_youthservice@msd.govt.nz