

# Handouts for Pito mata – realising potential

**CORE**  
EDUCATION  
Tātai Aho Rau



## Handout 3:

# Mana Tū, Mana Ora

<b>Mana Tū, Mana Ora</b> <b>Characteristics of Māori Giftedness<sup>2</sup></b>	
<p><b>Manaakitanga</b></p> <p><i>Ma tau rourou, ma taku rourou, ka ora ai te iwi</i></p> <p><i>With your contribution and my contribution, the people will thrive.</i></p>	<p>Tamariki gifted in Manaakitanga will:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• exhibit the capacity and natural inclination to respond, nurture, and care for others</li> <li>• have integrity and mana</li> <li>• have a sense of occasion; be welcoming; demonstrate hospitality</li> <li>• show generosity of spirit; be giving and understand the importance of, and demonstrate reciprocity</li> <li>• be strong in tautoko qualities (support; value that one person’s success is the success of the group).</li> </ul>
<p><b>Whanaungatanga</b></p> <p><i>Ma te tuakana ka to tika te teina; Ma te teina ka to tika te tuakana</i></p> <p><i>By the elder’s actions the younger will find the right path.</i></p> <p>The reverse is also true. The younger keeps the older on the straight path, because of the responsibility the older one bears.</p>	<p>Tamariki gifted in Whanaungatanga will:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• form, strengthen and maintain bonds with peers</li> <li>• value and promote loyalty and inclusiveness</li> <li>• be a role model, team player, and connect well with others</li> <li>• demonstrate an awareness of relationships and positions</li> <li>• be aware of their responsibility, especially in relationship to others</li> <li>• be strong in tautoko (support: value that one person’s success is the success of the group).</li> </ul>

<sup>2</sup> Mahaki, P., & Mahaki, C. (2007) “Mana Tū, Mana Ora: Identifying Characteristics of Māori Giftedness”. Retrieved from <https://gifted.tki.org.nz/define-and-identify/cultural-considerations/>



<p><b>Wairuatanga</b></p> <p><i>Nga wai e rua; he ira tangata, he ira Atua</i></p> <p><i>The dual balance which flows within the physical and spiritual being.</i></p>	<p>Tamariki gifted in Wairuatanga:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• have ability to ‘read’ the wairua of an environment or event and to respond appropriately</li> <li>• have the ability to nourish and restore their wairua</li> <li>• are sensitive and reflective thinkers</li> <li>• have a heart of humility which is open and giving</li> <li>• may appear ‘absent-minded’ or introspective but can be incredibly insightful on occasion (not always on prescribed occasions).</li> </ul>
<p><b>Kaitiakitanga</b></p> <p><i>Toi te kupu, toi te mana, toi te whenua</i></p> <p><i>Guard the permanence of language, mana, and land.</i></p>	<p>Tamariki gifted in Kaitiakitanga:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• have a very strong awareness of global issues and responsibility</li> <li>• recognise that human welfare and care for the environment are inextricably linked</li> <li>• are internally driven with a passion</li> <li>• are perceptive – aware of the need to nurture and maintain knowledge, environment and resources for the short term or long term future</li> <li>• demonstrate the need comes before self</li> <li>• may be gifted storytellers: have an excellent memory, knowledge of and pride in linking whakapapa, iwi, geography.</li> </ul>



<p><b>Rangatiratanga</b></p> <p><i>Tamati akonga i te kainga, tau ai i te marae</i></p> <p><i>A child educated to be strong in their own identity stands as a chief on the land.</i></p>	<p>Tamariki gifted in Rangatiratanga:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• have mana amongst their peers</li> <li>• are visionary and strategic thinkers: their opinions are sought, valued and considered</li> <li>• stand up for beliefs and values sometimes against adversity</li> <li>• inspire and motivate others to work for the common good</li> <li>• show initiative and motivation; see beyond the obvious to recognise what needs to be done</li> <li>• often have the mandate from the group as the spokesperson</li> <li>• can reflect and present controversial ideas with respect.</li> </ul>
<p><b>Mātauranga</b></p> <p><i>Whaia te pae tawhiti kia tata; Ko te pae tata, whakamaua kia tina</i></p> <p><i>Pursue your goals to the furthest horizon; Use new skills as tools to achieve further goals.</i></p>	<p>Tamariki gifted in Mātauranga:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• have intrinsic motivation and persistence to seek and acquire knowledge</li> <li>• have advanced thinking skills; think critically and creatively</li> <li>• have effective use of knowledge and intellect</li> <li>• learn quickly and can transfer knowledge into new contexts</li> <li>• can problem find, problem solve and analyse</li> <li>• are intuitive and visionary</li> <li>• are acknowledged and sought after for their expertise</li> <li>• share knowledge wisely and with discretion</li> <li>• have ability in language skills, e.g. oral storytelling – excellent memory, knowledge of and pride in whakapapa, iwi, geography, and can make links.</li> </ul>



<p><b>Ngā Mahi a te Rēhia</b></p> <p><i>E kore te kakano e ngaro, i ruia mai i Rangiatea</i></p> <p><i>A seed born of greatness will never be lost.</i></p>	<p>Tamariki gifted in Ngā Mahi a te Rēhia demonstrate ihi, wehi, and wana (linking appropriate knowledge of whakapapa and iwi to the occasion) and have ability in one or more of the following:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Visual Arts: includes Raranga (weaving) Tukutuku, Whakairo (carving), Kowhaiwhai (motifs and symbols)</li> <li>• Music: (includes Taonga Puoro), performance and composition</li> <li>• Performing Arts: Waiata, Haka, Karakia, Mau Rakau (traditional weaponry), Toi Whakaari (drama), Whai Korero (oratory skills), Karanga, Poi</li> <li>• Sports.</li> </ul>
<p><b>Tikanga</b></p> <p><i>Hoki ki to maunga kia purea koe e nga hau o Tawhirimatea</i></p> <p><i>Turn to your homeland and access the knowledge of your ancestors.</i></p>	<p>Tamariki gifted in Tikanga:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• can demonstrate initiative and appropriate behaviour before, during, and after events</li> <li>• have knowledge of protocols, customs, and rituals that demonstrate and reinforce values and beliefs</li> <li>• maintain, direct, and guide others in appropriate tikanga</li> <li>• can transfer and appropriately adapt tikanga to a variety of situations and environments.</li> </ul>

