



Becoming an Asian Tangata Tiriti

What we want for our young people



Our vision is for young people who will:

- be creative, energetic, and enterprising
- seize the opportunities offered by new knowledge and technologies to secure a sustainable social, cultural, economic, and environmental future for our country
- work to create an Aotearoa New Zealand in which Māori and Pākehā recognise each other as full Treaty partners, and in which all cultures are valued for the contributions they bring
- in their school years, continue to develop the values, knowledge, and competencies that will enable them to live full and satisfying lives
- be confident, connected, actively involved, and lifelong learners.

Asian philosophies

“When I was young many years ago, if you talked to professional philosophers about Asian philosophy, they’d tell you, **‘That’s not philosophy. That’s religion. That’s mysticism. That’s not real philosophy’**”

(Priest in [Saunders, 2008](#); emphasis added)

“We just got here”

- Untenable
- Asian philosophies: the past is **before** us (**preceding** this moment in time but **in front** of us too)
- E.g. Karma, Ching1 ming4, filial piety

Preamble of te Tiriti

“...he tokomaha ke ngā tangata o tōna Iwi Kua noho ki
tēnei w[h]enua, a e haere mai nei”

“...many of her [the Queen’s] subjects [were] already
living on this land and [with] **others yet to come**”

Relationality



Yin Yang—Symbol

Pratītyasamutpāda – dependent
origination

Eddie Taihakurei Durie

“if we [Māori] are the Tangata Whenua, the original people, then the Pakeha are the Tangata Tiriti, those who belong to the land by right of that Treaty”

(Durie in [Borrows, 2018](#), p. 45)

Ethical responsibility

- Xig6 zo2 faan6 méi6 aa3? (食咗飯未呀?) Have you eaten yet?
- Never arriving at someone's house emptyhanded
- Responsibility for “the face”
- Mētta (loving kindness) and karunā (compassion)

Moana Jackson

“The treaty to me has never been about treaty rights; it’s always been about the **rightness** that comes from people accepting their obligations to each other”

([He Tohu, 2017](#); emphasis added)

Te Kawehau Hoskins

“Māori don’t want you to be Māori, they want you to think positively about how you can have productive relationships with Māori”

([UniNews, 2023](#), p. 7)