



Tui Tuia
Learning Circle

Educational Leadership



**EDUCATION AND
SOCIAL WORK**

**WOOLF FISHER
RESEARCH CENTRE**

Learning Schools



Overview

Learning Schools is an approach that aims to solve complex and challenging student achievement problems and improve valued student learning outcomes by working in partnership with schools. This is a professional learning and development version of the Learning Schools Model, tested and refined in five countries including Aotearoa New Zealand since the early 2000s by the University of Auckland's Te Pūtahi Whakatairanga Hapori Ako Angitu | Woolf Fisher Research Centre (Te Pūtahi). The model has resulted in significant improvements in outcomes for students at both primary and secondary schools.

Over an approximate 18-month period, the Learning Schools team comprising Tui Tuia consultants and Te Pūtahi team will partner with schools to develop a collective understanding of how to improve valued student learning outcomes.



Benefits

Learning Schools is designed for educators who are trying to improve valued student learning outcomes in complex or challenging situations and want to find solutions in consultation with other teachers, leaders, researchers, and facilitators. Through this process you can co-design interventions to solve difficult issues in the context of your own school.

The co-designed interventions build on the existing capability, strengths, and knowledge of teachers and school leaders, but also strengthen and develop new knowledge and capabilities. Knowledge and skills that are typically strengthened include: data literacy and data systems, assessment, pedagogical content knowledge, and teaching and leadership practice. You can undertake it with clusters of schools experiencing a similar problem, individual schools, or even groups within a school.

→ What is Learning Schools?

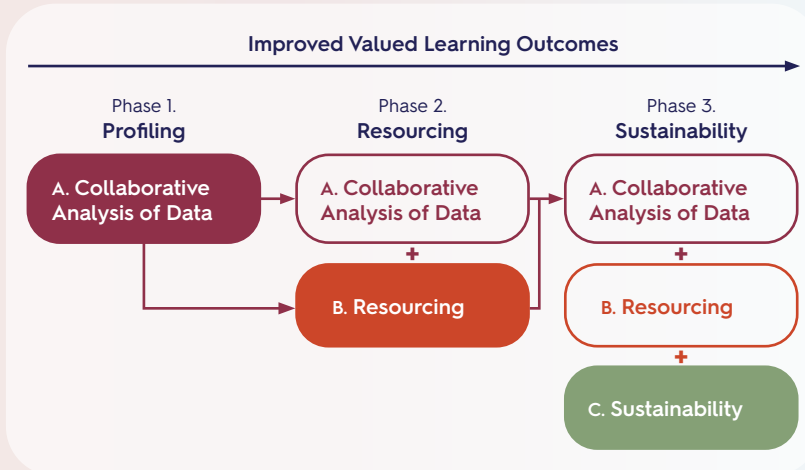
Learning Schools is enacted in three phases that build on each other. Throughout each phase, teachers, school leaders, and researchers/facilitators work together in professional learning communities.

Phase 1: Baseline Profiling and Collaborative Analysis of Data

During this phase, school leaders, teachers, and the Learning Schools team work collectively to analyse student learning outcomes, understand and test what could be related to these outcomes; and collectively develop strategies based on these analyses. School leaders' and teachers' knowledge and skills are developed through this process.

Phase 2: Resourcing

Collaborative analysis continues, and resourcing is provided to build on strengths and deepen school leaders' and teachers' knowledge and skills in the areas of need identified in Phase 1. The impact is assessed and refined, with Professional Learning for Phase 3 developed based on the analysis of the data and school leader feedback.



Phase 3: Sustainability

Collaborative analysis and resourcing continue where necessary but is extended by focusing on how to sustain the new knowledge and processes gained. The aim of this final phase is to have school leaders, teachers, researchers, and facilitators collaboratively analysing data and developing practices to sustain the intervention.

→ Partnerships of 'rigour with respect' for co-design

The success of Learning Schools is based on the principle of developing partnerships to co-design interventions that are able to improve valued student learning outcomes in complex situations. These partnerships are based on the principles of 'rigour with respect'. There is rigour in the analysis and interrogation of data, the PLD and intervention development. There is also respect for the knowledge and perspectives of all partners in the co-design, especially those of schools and communities, with Learning Schools building on existing knowledge and strengths.

Importantly, with this principle in mind, Learning Schools is not a tool for evaluating and critiquing individual teachers, nor is it 'experts' coming to tell teachers what to do. Rather, it is a partnership of equals to support our tamariki.

→ Funding

Funding can be accessed via the Ministry of Education's Regionally-Allocated Professional Learning Development (RA-PLD).



→ Register your interest

For more details and how to register, please scan the QR code or visit our website: learningcircle.co.nz/learningschools