

## Unteach Racism A Student Kaiako Perspective



### VOICES

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Understanding the unique role kaiako play in shaping inclusive and equitable learning environments – where every ākonga feels seen, heard, and valued – is a critical part of the learning journey in the initial kaiako education programmes at Te Rito Maioha ECNZ.

The Teaching Council's Unteach Racism framework has been part of course work for taura (student kaiako) in the Bachelor of Teaching (Primary) and Graduate Diploma of Teaching (Primary) programmes since their inception. Primary taura enrolled in these programmes have found the experience of engaging in the Unteach Racism modules deeply meaningful and transformative experience. These modules are not just theoretical—they offer practical, real-world tools that help student kaiako begin to enact change from the very start of their teaching careers.

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**Taura in these programmes are deeply committed to creating primary classrooms where identity, language, and culture are respected and celebrated.**

The resources contained in the Unteach Racism framework have equipped them with the confidence and strategies to bring this vision to life. Through these modules, taura have been able to unpack personal biases, confront harmful stereotypes, and develop a deeper understanding of the roots of prejudice and discrimination. Importantly, student kaiako report

being able to apply what they've learned immediately in their teaching practice and their belief that even as beginning educators, they are already making a difference in their classrooms.

**Tauira consistently express how valuable these modules are as part of their programme. They strongly advocate for the continued inclusion of this content, hoping it remains a core component of the learning experience for future tauira at Te Rito Maioha.**