

ACE Aotearoa Progress Report

1. Summary of Progress of the ACE Sector Capability Building Contract

Introduction

Adult and Community Education (ACE) Aotearoa Incorporated (ACE Aotearoa) is the lead body for the sector. It is a professional development body of networks of adult and community educators. ACE Aotearoa supports the sector to deliver centrally co-ordinated, structured learning. This in turn helps to strengthen and support effective ACE delivery and improve ACE learner outcomes, particularly for priority learner groups identified in the Tertiary Education Strategy.

The purpose of the ACE Sector Capability Building Contract is to enable ACE Aotearoa to perform three roles and achieve the following outcomes:

Role	Outcomes
Strategic sector leadership	The contribution and impact of ACE provision to the broader tertiary education sector is better recognised and understood. The impact of ACE provision is appropriately measured, communicated and leveraged across the tertiary education sector.
Sector capability building	Sector capability and capacity is strengthened and developed through the creation of collaborative and strategic opportunities to build and share resources that benefit the ACE sector.
Sector co-ordination	The ACE sector is supported in meaningful ways to deliver learner success, maximising efficiency and effectiveness of the sector.

Table summary of activities, impact measures and/or outcomes for the period January to July 2021

Area of work	Activity	Date	Venue	Impact measures / outcomes
Strategic Leadership				
	ACE Capability Steering Group (ASSG) Meetings	24 March 2021 13 May 2021 1 July 2021 23 September 2 December	ACE House, Wellington Online Online	<p>Three meetings have been held in this period.</p> <p>Confirmed Sector representative membership including Te Ataarangi, Literacy Aotearoa, ASSG Chair, Ako Aotearoa, English Language Partners, Federation of Workers Education Association, ACE in Schools - Wellington High School Community Education and REAP. ACE Aotearoa is the Secretariat and representative for small organisations. The ASSG membership also includes Ministry of Education, Tertiary Education Commission.</p> <p>A presentation was delivered during the ACE Conference (14 June) where members were introduced to the Sector, outlining ASSG key role and objectives.</p> <p>A Work Plan has been developed linked to achievement of the Sector Leadership objectives. The ASSG agreed to the following actions due by December:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Marketing campaign (increase public sector profile, contribution to TES/NELP and learner success) • Impact Study (measure outcomes) <p>This work is now underway. The next ASSG meetings will be held 23 September and 2 December. The focus is progressing the Work Plan.</p>
	ACE Quality Assurance Framework, Learner Pathways, Teaching Standards and Learner Outcomes tool Presentation	10 May 2021	TEC, Wellington	<p>TEC staff were introduced to ACE Aotearoa and an overview of the ACE Quality Assurance Framework including the Teaching Standards.</p> <p>We are waiting to schedule further presentations, prioritising the ACE Learner Outcomes Tool.</p>
Sector Capability				
	ACE Conference Kei te Pohewa Anotia (Re-imagining ACE)	13 – 14 June 2021		<p>120 people attended the ACE Conference, more than 90% of participants reported the conference was highly valuable for their work and the most diverse demographic, particularly an increase of Māori and Pacific ACE workforce. Feedback from participants noted new emerging themes:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • The need for more recognition and knowledge of neurodiversity • Connecting with youth and intentional engagement

				<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • The importance of networking and breaking down silos (working across sectors) • Developing leadership pathways • The value of the ACE Environmental Scan • Supporting access to Ako Aotearoa PLD <p>The Conference was also an opportunity to recognise ACE educators and community programmes from across the country, hosting the ACE Annual Awards. Five recipients were awarded for their contribution to community programmes and celebrating educators.</p> <p>A full Conference Evaluation report is being prepared for analysis to inform planning for 2022. Feedback and key points are being used to inform the contract work, including exploration of PLD offerings on neurodiversity, and collating stories to inform the Impact Study.</p> <p>Click this link to see video highlights from day one and wrap up. Keynote speech by the Children’s Commissioner. Keynote speech by Minister of Education.</p> <p>Click this link to see ACE Environmental Scan research report completed in 2019.</p>
	Hui Fono Workshops Wā o Le Vā – Conceptionalising Life-long Learning			<p>Two workshops were held in Kaitia (hosted by Far North REAP, 29 April) and Hastings (hosted by EIT, 25 June) with 66 participants including a number of local Ministry of Education staff. The workshop designs were tailored to introduce Pacific pedagogical application using ancestrally qualified concepts of Ura (Cook Islands performance, targeting cultural and health and wellbeing outcomes), and Kakala (Tongan research method) within a learning and teaching environment. More than 90% reported they were satisfied with the programme and specific mention that the nature of the workshops appealed to a broader network engagement with tertiary providers and local Māori and Pacific communities who would not otherwise attend.</p> <p>Promotion for the six remaining workshops are underway. We are deliberately targeting areas that have the least access to these PLD offerings, including Taranaki (New Plymouth), Oamaru, and Tāhuna (Central Otago).</p> <p>Click this link to view video stories.</p>
	Festival of Adult Learning Event	6 – 12 September 2021		<p>Planning is underway for the Festival of Adult Learning to support local ACE providers and community promotion. 46 applications were received. Assessed grants were considered approving 45 grants projects. Total</p>

				<p>amount applied for \$89,892. Total allocation of funds approved \$46,391 (ranging from \$400 to \$2,000).</p> <p>Support and marketing material will be disseminated to providers and a full evaluation analysis of activities will be reported in December.</p> <p>Click here for information about the Festival.</p>
	Quality Assurance Tool Workshops			<p>Due to staff changes, this work is pending start of the new Sector Capability Manager, 26 July.</p> <p>Click here for information about the ACE Quality Assurance tool.</p>
	Te Reo Māori for ACE sector Workshops	November		<p>Workshops have been scheduled for November.</p> <p>A needs analysis is being developed to scope tailored programme for roll out.</p>
	ACE Learner Pathways Workshops			<p>Due to staff changes, this work is pending start of the new Sector Capability Manager, 26 July.</p> <p>Click here for more information about ACE Learner Pathways.</p>
	ACE Teaching Standards Workshops			<p>We have confirmed a collaboration project with Ako Aotearoa, to support delivery of two tailored teaching workshops. The workshop design is based on the ACE Teaching Standards and responds to the increased demand from ACE educators. This starts in July and will be delivered in Christchurch and Dunedin.</p> <p>Click here to see ACE Teaching Standards.</p>
	Professional Development Workshops			<p>Two PD workshops were held in Auckland (23 April) and Christchurch (25 June) with 16 participants. The workshop, Civics Education, considered citizenship from a Māori and Pasifika perspective, with a focus on Te Tiriti o Waitangi. Early evaluations reported a positive reception and application to working with priority learners.</p> <p>Click this link to see highlights from workshops.</p> <p>All workshop participant evaluations are in progress to be included in the end of year report.</p>
	ACE Professional Development Grants	31 March 2021 30 September 2021		<p>The March grants funding round received eight applications; total amount requested \$109,476. The total amount available per funding found is \$100,000. Five applications were approved, total allocation \$54,626 with reach to 17 organisations (note the grant criteria requires collaborative submissions). Majority of grants were targeted at upskilling teaching staff in literacy and te reo practices.</p>

				<p>Click this link to see video interview of a PD grant recipient and how the funding has helped</p> <p>The September grant funding round is open.</p>
	Sector Communication			<p>1000 newsletters published and distributed to 440 organisations, 370 individuals including MPs. The newsletter stories continue to share good practice across the sector, including international perspectives.</p> <p>Click this link to view the latest newsletter. Features Conference, new staff introduction, Annual Awards (community providers and educators), sector update and profiling local ACE providers</p>
Sector Coordination				
	Seminars on ACE policy			<p>Not yet started. Aligned to the work being led by the ACE Sector Steering Group.</p>
	Tuakana-Teina Mentoring Programme			<p>We have visited two ACE providers in this period in Rānui, West Auckland and Kaitaia. Other scheduled visits were impacted by changing alert levels and will be postponed to later in the year.</p> <p>Click this link to view video stories from Ranui.</p>