



### **Manaakitanga (Respect & Care)**

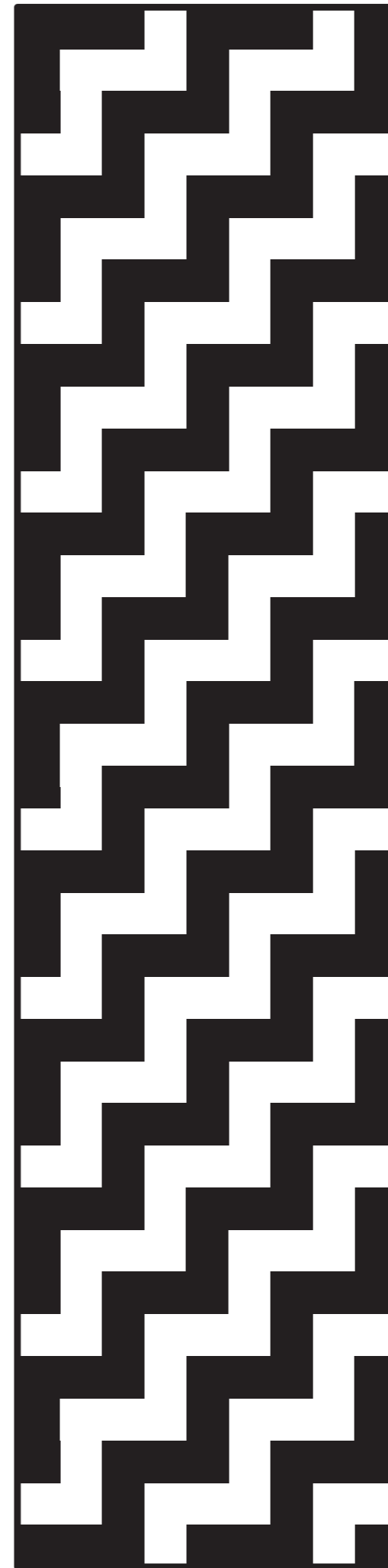
This kōwhaiwhai design reflects the value of Manaakitanga, emphasizing respect, care, and kindness towards ourselves, others, and the environment. Manaakitanga is a foundational principle in Māori culture, guiding how we nurture relationships and act with generosity and compassion in all aspects of life.

The design elements within this design express the essence of Manaakitanga:

The two Manaia represent guardianship, protection, and care. Traditionally, the manaia symbolizes a spiritual guardian—one who looks after people, places, and things. In this design, the presence of two manaia reinforces the importance of both self-care and care for others, reflecting the balance required to nurture strong relationships. The dual guardians also remind us that respect must flow both ways—between individuals and communities—and that the well-being of one depends on the well-being of all.

Spiral patterns echo throughout the design, symbolizing connection, growth, and continuity. These patterns are inspired by the Takarangi design, which represents the interconnectedness of all life. They remind us that caring for our environment is inseparable from caring for ourselves and others. Just as natural elements exist in a delicate balance, we too must act with mindfulness and respect in our relationships with the world around us.

Together, these design elements tell a story of guardianship, interconnectedness, and generosity. They invite students to embody Manaakitanga by showing kindness, respect, and care in all aspects of their lives—whether towards their peers, whānau, or the natural world. This design serves as a reminder that small acts of care, when sustained and shared, ripple outward to create lasting positive change, just like the spirals that flow across the design.



### **Ako (Learner)**

This kōwhaiwhai design reflects the value of Ako, which emphasizes the reciprocal nature of learning and teaching. In te ao Māori, ako recognizes that everyone has the potential to both teach and learn, highlighting the importance of reflection, shared knowledge, and continuous growth. A key part of this value is fostering a growth mindset—embracing challenges, learning from mistakes, and developing through persistence.

At the heart of this design is the Poutama pattern, which symbolically represents the pursuit of knowledge, learning, and personal development. The stepped design of the poutama reflects the idea of progress:

Climbing the steps symbolizes an individual's journey through learning, with each step representing new knowledge, insights, or lessons gained. It reminds students that learning is a continuous process, where challenges are opportunities to grow.

Shared learning is also reflected in this design. As individuals advance along their learning journey, they are encouraged to reflect on their experiences and pass on their knowledge, empowering others to learn and grow alongside them. In this way, the design reflects the idea that learning is both individual and communal.

This design invites students to embody the spirit of Ako by cultivating curiosity, embracing challenges, and sharing what they learn. Just as the poutama design illustrates the steady climb towards knowledge, students are reminded that learning is not about perfection but about progress and persistence. Through collaboration and reflection, each learner contributes to the growth of the community, creating an environment where knowledge flows freely and everyone thrives.



### Ngātahi (Together)

This kōwhaiwhai design expresses the value of Ngātahi, which emphasizes the importance of togetherness, unity, and collective effort. Ngātahi reflects the idea that we are stronger when we work together—through inclusion, collaboration, and meaningful connections with others. This value teaches us that progress is achieved not in isolation, but by bringing people together, weaving diverse strengths into a shared purpose.

At the heart of this design are Tāniko elements, traditionally associated with the intricate patterns of tukutuku weaving. Tāniko is an appropriate symbol for Ngātahi, as its design reflects unity, interconnection, and collaboration:

- Interwoven strands symbolize the strength that comes from working together, much like individual threads becoming stronger when combined. Each person within a group contributes unique strengths and talents, and by working in harmony, they create something greater than the sum of its parts.
- Patterns of symmetry and balance within the tāniko elements reflect the idea of inclusion, where everyone plays a vital role. Just as each thread is essential to the pattern's beauty and structure, each person's participation and voice are valued within the community.
- Collaboration and connection are further emphasized in this design. The tukutuku elements represent the relationships we build over time—woven carefully and intentionally to form enduring bonds of trust, respect, and unity.

This design encourages students to embrace the value of Ngātahi by including others, fostering teamwork, and building meaningful connections. It reminds them that just as a tukutuku pattern takes shape through the patient weaving of many threads, strong communities are formed through cooperation and shared effort. In practicing Ngātahi, students learn that when we stand together and support one another, we achieve more than we ever could alone.



### Aumangea (Resilient)

This kōwhaiwhai design embodies the value of Aumangea, which emphasizes resilience, determination, and the ability to overcome challenges. Aumangea speaks to the qualities of showing grit, taking risks, and bouncing back from setbacks—traits essential for personal growth and success.

The Puhoro and Mangōpare elements within this design beautifully illustrate the essence of resilience:

- The Puhoro design traditionally represents speed and agility. In this context, it serves as a powerful metaphor for a waka (canoe) navigating through open waters, bravely pushing through harsh elements and towering waves. Just as the waka must maintain its course amid turbulent seas, individuals must harness their inner strength to confront and overcome obstacles in their own lives. The Puhoro design symbolizes the resilience needed to navigate life's challenges, reminding us that perseverance in the face of adversity is key to achieving our goals.
- The Mangōpare, or hammerhead shark, symbolizes strength and tenacity. Known for its ability to adapt and thrive in various conditions, the Mangōpare embodies the spirit of bouncing back and demonstrating unwavering resolve during difficult times. This element encourages students to embrace their challenges with courage and determination, reminding them that setbacks can be opportunities for growth. Just as the shark persists in its pursuit, students are inspired to face their struggles head-on, developing the grit required to rise above adversity.

Together, these design elements form a powerful narrative about resilience. The Puhoro and Mangōpare invite students to embody the spirit of Aumangea by taking risks, learning from their experiences, and showing strength in the face of challenges. By embracing this value, students learn that resilience is not just about enduring hardships but also about growing stronger through them. This design serves as a reminder that, like a waka sailing through stormy seas or a shark navigating the depths of the ocean, they can persevere and thrive, no matter what obstacles they encounter.