



TE HUNGA RANGAHAU MĀTAURANGA O AOTEAROA

NEW ZEALAND ASSOCIATION FOR RESEARCH IN EDUCATION



Te Tohu Pae Tawhiti

2021

Lesley Rameka

University of Waikato

The recipient for this year's tohu pae tawhiti award is an outstanding Māori scholar who has made a significant contribution to Māori education through the high quality research she has conducted over a significant period of time. She is a prolific writer with extensive national and international publications. The recipient's research is centred in Early Childhood Education, however, the implications of her research foci, the depth of her thinking behind the research and the quality of the findings have made her research pertinent for educators across all sectors. Her research spans a long career, beginning over 35 years ago in Te Kōhanga Reo. She has published widely in both te reo Māori and English, across multiple aspects of kaupapa Māori and mātauranga Māori. All her research draws deeply from aspects of te reo and traditional Māori knowledge. This recipient generously shares her knowledge with others, and has supported many emerging researchers (from undergraduate to doctoral level) as a lead researcher at both Victoria University and the University of Waikato. Her expertise has been sought by governmental and national panels, advisory groups and committees. Amongst her many accolades is included: being a key writer for Te Whāriki, making a substantial contribution to the updated Te Whāriki, published in 2017, and being a key writer for He Whāriki Mātauranga mō ngā Mokopuna o Aotearoa Early Childhood Curriculum Part B - Bilingual Pathway, which we understand will be published this year. She is currently an advisor/writer for the Ministry of Education for Kōwhiri Whakapae – the assessment of progress and practice in Early Childhood Education. She was a key member of the Academic Experts Group for the Education Review Office, responsible for developing the evidence base underpinning the evaluation indicators for Early Childhood Education, resulting in the publication of Nga Pou Here: How ERO Reviews Early Learning Services and School Evaluation (ERO, 2017-2018). It is with great pleasure that Te Huinga Rangahau Mātauranga o Aotearoa, New Zealand Association for Research in Education award the 2021 Te Tohu Pae Tawhiti to Dr Lesley Rameka.