

Ngā Toi



Whitireia and WelTec unite programmes to create new Te Ao Māori performing arts group

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Whitireia and WelTec have established a new interdisciplinary group called Ngā Toi to unite Māori and Pacific performing arts and music within Te Wānanga Māori.

“The creation of Ngā Toi enables a roopu (unit) that will bring together creative and performing arts within a Māori-led ecosystem,” says Jeanette Grace, Dean of Te Wānanga Māori at Whitireia.

The new group, created following consultation and feedback, will be based at the Whitireia Porirua campus and will deliver the following programmes:

New Zealand Certificate in Performing Arts (Level 3) incorporating performing arts and music

New Zealand Certificate in Music (Level 4)




New Zealand Diploma in Performing Arts (Level 6) (Māori and Pacific Dance).

Ngā Toi will be co-located in the current facilities used by Māori and Pacific Performing Arts at Whitireia in Porirua. A kawenata (governance group) led by the Dean of Te Wānanga Māori and including the Chief Advisor Pacific and Head of the School of Creative and Hospitality will oversee the new unit.

“We endeavour to shape our practice and delivery to facilitate learning and success in the Wellington region, and our flexible approach responds to needs and maximises accessibility to vocational education for ākongā (students) in our region,” said Mr Oldershaw.

“Ngā Toi upholds the vocational education ethos to engage ākongā (students) with learning, develop self-confidence, link back to cultural whakapapa, and enable success,” says Mark Oldershaw, Manahautū Executive Director at Whitireia and WelTec. “It also presents an opportunity to grow an interdisciplinary performing arts group with strong kaupapa and retain the level 3 and 4 music programmes within this newly established group.”

New Zealand Certificate in Music (Level 4)

 Level 4
 1 year, full-time
 \$7,569 (indicative for 2025 intake)

Develop your musical skills and understanding of the industry, in a predominately hands-on environment. You will play in bands (ensembles), learn about theory, composition, music production, and how to be a professional musician. You will also have the opportunity to focus on your specialist instrument. Individual lessons are provided by a range of tutors who perform regularly at concerts both nationally and overseas.

What you will learn

Develop your skills. learn different styles and play in a band. Learn alongside industry professionals, create original songs and gig in local venues.

This programme is designed to provide a foundation for musicians wishing to work in the music industry or go onto further study. training. It covers all aspects of the music industry from performance, composition and song writing, music technology, music business and instrument studies.

This programme is formerly known as the New Zealand Certificate in Rock, Jazz and Commercial Music (Level 4).

More detail about this qualification

This programme is taught at the Whitireia, Porirua campus.

Students will learn the following skills:

- Instrument Studies - learning to play your instrument to a proficient level
- Ensemble Workshop - playing in groups
- Understanding Music - theory, ear training, musicianship
- Composition - song writing
- Professional Studies - music business, health and safety

- MIDI Technology - using computers to make music
- PA Technology - learning how to set up PA systems and mix live sound

Specialise in your passion:

- Drums
- Keyboard
- Bass
- Guitar
- Vocals

Entry requirements

Domestic

Have instrumental and/or vocal skills.

International students

Proven equivalence of entry requirements plus IELTS 5.5 (no band lower than 5.0)

Find your country's [equivalent academic entry requirements here](#)

*For fee exclusions, please see our [terms and conditions](#).

Disclaimer: The information contained in this document is correct at the time of print. Whitireia and WelTec | Te Pūkenga reserves the right to cancel or postpone any of the programmes, and shall not be liable for any claim other than the proportion of programme fees that the cancelled portion bears. Some programmes may be dependent upon formal approval from NZQA (New Zealand Qualifications Authority), TEC (Tertiary Education Commission) funding allocation, and the number of enrolments. As part of the NZQA targeted review of all Level 1-6 New Zealand qualifications, there may still be changes to some programmes starting in 2024. Fees, programmes, entry and selection criteria, and dates, are subject to change. Please check the relevant programme pages at whitireiaweltec.ac.nz for up-to-date information and full entry regulations before applying to enrol. Information regarding English language requirements is available on each course page at whitireiaweltec.ac.nz.