

# Te Ata Māhina Bachelor of Social Work (Level 7, 480 credits)

## Programme Summary

### Unification of Programmes

Te Pūkenga academic delivery innovation strategic direction is aimed at establishing a coherent portfolio of programmes that will support ākonga (learners), employers and industry to make informed decisions about future study and employment, and achieve a sustainable network of ongoing delivery.

Our strategy is informed by a number of key policy and legislative statements, including the functions and [Charter of Te Pūkenga](#).

The unification process has been designed to employ a collaborative approach to redevelopment that will ensure the programme design meets Te Pūkenga Programme Development Excellence Framework, Whiria Te Pūkenga (Mātauranga Māori Framework), and can be delivered in line with Te Pūkenga Ako Framework.

The main goals of unification are:

- To work with providers within Te Pūkenga network to establish a single unifying programme from among those that already exists, with minor updates to be made to ensure the unified programme works for all (for example, all modes of delivery)<sup>1</sup>.
- To develop in the context of a suite of programmes, rather than as isolated programmes, to ensure effective and streamlined learner pathways are maintained or enhanced.

In most cases the initial approach to unification is by **transition** to an agreed existing programme which will undergo minor changes to ensure that it is fit for purpose for continued delivery in a range of regions and delivery modes. Once existing providers have transitioned to a unified programme, a collaborative redevelopment approach to further improve the programme will be undertaken according to a scheduled programme of review over a five year period.

In some cases a programme **transformation** development may be triggered. This involves a collaborative redevelopment of a new unifying programme for the network that works for all (e.g., includes all delivery modes). Transformation projects may be required according to the following:

- a significant change in a qualification (version change or replacement at levels 1 – 6 on the NZQF) that requires a new programme of study
- changes made by standards setting bodies which require a redevelopment of a programme leading to a qualification
- consolidation of multiple degree level qualifications into a single unified qualification and programme of learning
- an urgent need to redevelop a programme because of identified success and equity issues in the current offerings.

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### Te Ata Māhina Bachelor of Social Work – a unified Te Pūkenga programme

Te Ata Māhina Bachelor of Social Work is a four year, 480 credit Degree qualification at Level 7. The unified programme has been designed to deliver and meet Social Workers Registration Board (SWRB) and NZQA requirements.

Te Pūkenga has a relentless focus on equity and ensuring participation, in particular for Māori, Pacific and disabled learners and this unified programme development has been created with a desire to support this focus on equity. Te Ata Māhina Bachelor of Social Work is designed to deliver

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<sup>1</sup> All transition work will move us towards and occur with the future state of national curricula and skills standards in mind

on our aim of providing qualified and skilled Social Workers who can meet the needs of Aotearoa New Zealand now and into the future. Graduates of Te Ata Māhina Bachelor of Social Work will be eligible to register with the Social Workers Registration Board and practice as a Social Worker in Aotearoa New Zealand and overseas.

Te Ata Māhina Bachelor of Social Work is designed to be high-level, broad and flexible, with a particular focus on enabling regional responsiveness to tailor to local community needs, including local tikanga, community groups (eg. Migrant, Refugee) and the relevant local context. Te Pūkenga network partners will retain regional and local relationships, including practice placements partnerships.

Te Pūkenga kaimahi and kaiako will be closely connected as one network, meaning that they will be able to share best practice, learning and teaching resources and collectively ensure that the approach to delivery is fair, valid and consistent.

### Ngā Mātāpono Tokorangi | Design Principles

In order to authentically locate ākonga (learners) at the centre, a full **transformational** programme redesign and development was undertaken to unify Te Pūkenga social work programmes.

Formal **Steering and Working** groups were established in 2021 to lead, coordinate and undertake the unification of the social work programme. These groups included leaders, subject matter experts, curriculum developer/writers, Mātauranga Māori, and learning design partners.

Te Pūkenga also invited nominations for a series of **reference groups** with representatives from across the above sectors, including ākonga, Te Pūkenga kaimahi (staff), professional bodies and organisations, hapori community services user/advocacy groups, employers, and workforce, and those that use the services of our graduates. All reference groups had a particular focus on those who are under-served by the education system, including Māori, Pacific, and disabled learners.

The reference groups and the working groups **co-designed ngā mātāpono**<sup>2</sup> (guiding concepts) that were applied during the development process for the programme. As a result, Te Ata Māhina Bachelor Social Work programme is:

1. Toko te Ao Māori | Founded in Te Ao Māori
2. Toko te Mana | Mana-enhancing
3. Toko te Ora Nui | Holistic
4. Toko te Ora Roa | Fosters whanaungatanga
5. Toko te Tangata | Asks No wai au? Nō whea koe?
6. Toko te Tika | Advances social justice

A series of wānanga with co-design facilitators took place with a focus on designing a programme that honoured Te Tiriti and created equity. The ngā mātāpono then supported the development of the **Graduate Profile Outcomes** and subsequently, the themes and structure of the programme.

**Specialised working groups** of Te Pūkenga kaimahi were then established to develop the detailed course descriptors, which have been collated and cohesively mapped together to form the programme of study. Careful consideration was also given to ensuring the programme met and aligned with Social Workers Registration Board (SWRB) and New Zealand Qualifications Authority (NZQA) requirements.

### Transitioning to the new unified programme

Te Ata Māhina Bachelor of Social Work will commence Year 1 course delivery in 2023, subject to approval and accreditation. Year 2 course delivery will follow in 2024, with Year 3 and Year 4 following. All programmes currently offered in the network will cease new enrolments in 2023 and will be progressively phased out as the new programme is phased in.

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<sup>2</sup> Reference to the separation of Rangī and Papa by their children in their pursuit of ora.

This programme development enables all ākonga to enjoy the benefits of a unified programme that meets the requirements of the functions and [Charter of Te Pūkenga](#).

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## **Ngā Tohu ora a te Tauria - Graduate Profile Outcomes<sup>3</sup>**

### **1. Rangatiratanga | Self Determination**

Graduates understand Rangatiratanga as a Māori philosophy, value and practice of people exercising their independence, and self-determination. Graduates can apply Rangatiratanga in their developing/everyday social work practice.

### **2. Kawenga Tiriti | Te Tiriti-Based Practice**

Graduates can engage in Tiriti-based practice that is informed by knowledge of Te Ao Māori and indigenous ways of knowing. They can explain the historical and present effects of colonisation on Tangata Whenua.

### **3. Māramatanga Ao Māori | Te Ao Māori Understanding**

Graduates are capable of applying te reo Māori, tikanga, kawa and Māori approaches to oranga and wellbeing in their developing practice.

### **4. Mahitahi me ngā Tangata Moana i Aotearoa | Working with Tangata Moana in Aotearoa**

Graduates understand the history and diversity of Pacific peoples in Aotearoa and are capable of applying Pacific principles, theories, and knowledge to their social work practice.

### **5. Kanorau | Diversity**

Graduates are capable of analysing and challenging all forms of injustice and oppression including, but not limited to, age, class, colour, culture, disability and ability, ethnicity, gender, gender identity and expression, immigration status, marital status, neurodiversity, political ideology, race, religion/spirituality, sex and sexual orientation.

### **6. Manatika | Social justice**

Graduates are capable of taking actions to protect and advocate for human rights including civil, political, environmental, economic, social and cultural rights.

### **7. Ngaiotanga | Professionalism**

Graduates are capable of taking responsibility for their conduct, practice, self-care and professional development. They are ethically fluent and can reason about ethical issues, problems and dilemmas.

### **8. Puna Whakaata | Identity**

Graduates are critically self-aware, self-determined, reflective practitioners capable of reflecting on power, practice, policy and research findings. They understand how "ko wai au - who you are" and "no whea koe - where you are from" influences their worldview and social work practice.

### **9. Whanaungatanga | Relationships**

Graduates are capable of building, maintaining and closing respectful, reciprocal mana-enhancing relationships with individuals, whānau, hapū, iwi, and communities.

### **10. Tikanga | Process**

Graduates are capable of working through the steps in the social work process—engagement, assessment, intervention, evaluation and closure in a way that is research-informed, safe and responsive to the interpersonal and cultural needs of service users.

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<sup>3</sup> Reference to the 'toko ora' notion specifically aligned to this programme.

## Te Ata Māhina Bachelor of Social Work Programme Structure

BACHELOR OF SOCIAL WORK - STRUCTURE										Total Credits	Total Courses
YEAR 1	Level	5	5	5	5	5	5	5	5	120	8
	Theme	Te Ao Māori & Social Practice I (15 credits)	Te Tiriti o Waitangi I (15 credits)	Nō wai au, nō whea koe (15 credits)	Child, Family & Whānau I (15 credits)	Social Work Practice I (15 credits)	Understanding Wellbeing I (15 credits)	Aotearoa New Zealand Society (15 credits)	Talanoa Pacific (15 credits)		
YEAR 2	Level	6	6	6	6	6	6	6	6	120	8
	Theme	Te Ao Māori & Social Practice II (15 credits)	Te Tiriti o Waitangi II (15 credits)	Law & Ethical Decision-Making (15 credits)	Child, Family & Whānau II (15 credits)	Social Work Practice II (15 credits)	Understanding Wellbeing II (15 credits)	Organisational Contexts (15 credits)	Professional Social Work Practice (15 credits)		
YEAR 3	Level	7	7	7	7	7	7	7	7	120	6
	Theme	Practice Placement I (45 credits)			Child, Family & Whānau III (15 credits)	Social Work Practice III (15 credits)	Understanding Wellbeing III (15 credits)	Working with Communities (15 credits)	Understanding Research I (15 credits)		
YEAR 4	Level	7	7	7	7	7	7	7	7	120	5
	Theme	Social Justice & Social Policy (15 credits)	Working with Diversity (15 credits)	Elective (15 credits)	Understanding Research II (15 credits)	Practice Placement II 45 credits)			Te Tiriti based practice (15 credits)		