



Campus Connections Aotearoa

Tūhono Aiopīpī



Annual Report 2018



THE UNIVERSITY OF
AUCKLAND
Te Whare Wānanga o Tāmaki Makaurau
NEW ZEALAND

Enriching lives through youth mentoring

Contents

Message from the Dean of the Faculty of Education and Social Work	3
Message from the CC-A Directors	5
Programme overview	7
What makes Campus Connections Aotearoa unique?	8
Programme structure and timeline	10
Profile and experiences of the youth who participated in the programme	13
Profile and experiences of the students who participated in the programme	15
Transition data for 2017 cohort	16
Campus Connections evaluation and research process	18-19
Our people	20-21

Whakataukī

Campus Connections Aotearoa | Tūhono Aiopīpī

Mā te rongo ka mōhio	<i>Listening brings about awareness</i>
Mā te mōhio ka mārama	<i>Awareness brings forth understanding</i>
Mā te mārama ka mātau	<i>Understanding enhances knowledge</i>
Mā te mātau ka ora	<i>That knowledge promotes well-being</i>

The above whakataukī was gifted to Campus Connections Aotearoa by the Kāhui Raukura Reo Māori Alumni Committee, who support the revitalisation of Māori language at the Faculty of Education and Social Work. It is intended to support the te reo name for Campus Connections Aotearoa, which was informed by ideas gathered from young people who participated in the programme. Feedback was collected by PhD candidate Yvonne Ualesi, as part of her research on culturally responsive youth mentoring. She conducted focus groups with youth mentees and with their alternative education (AE) tutors. Both groups were asked what kinds of words and ideas should be captured in a te reo name for the programme based on their programme experiences.

The name Tūhono Aiopīpī refers to the importance of connection, nurturing, balance and wellbeing in allowing young people to flourish. The Campus Connections Aotearoa Leadership Team is incredibly grateful for the contributions of everyone who was involved in the naming process and gives special thanks to Te Rongopai Morehu for suggesting both the name and the whakataukī. The Leadership Team feels very blessed to have been gifted with a name that so aptly captures the aspirations of the programme.



Message from the Dean of the Faculty of Education and Social Work

As Campus Connections Aotearoa | Tūhono Aioipipi concludes its second year, it is my pleasure to present the 2018 Annual Report on behalf of the Governance Board.

In 2018, Campus Connections Aotearoa welcomed its second cohort of youth from our alternative education partner in west Auckland to join its unique mentoring programme.

The second year of delivery saw the inclusion of students studying in the faculties of Arts and Science for the first time alongside our own social work students. This is a further demonstration of the value and power of the experience for both students and youth, who say that the programme has given them the opportunity to develop important skills and new relationships. The value of such connections is especially relevant given our current government's focus on improving New Zealanders' mental health and wellbeing.

Campus Connections Aotearoa is also contributing valuable insights to the field of youth mentoring through its programme of research, led by Drs Pat Bullen and Kelsey Deane, with contributions from Faculty of Education and Social Work Masters and PhD students.

The programme continued to operate in 2018 with funding and support from The Vodafone New Zealand Foundation, Vodafone New Zealand, the Ministry of Youth Development, as well as private donors. All our donors share Campus Connection Aotearoa's recognition of the importance of promoting the wellbeing and aspirations of some of New Zealand's most marginalised young people.

By advancing the social wellbeing of these young people, Campus Connections Aotearoa contributes to the achievement of the University of Auckland's mission and values. I look forward to watching the programme continue to flourish as it welcomes its third cohort of students and youth to the Faculty of Education and Social Work's Epsom Campus in 2019.

ASSOCIATE PROFESSOR MARK BARROW
Dean of the Faculty of Education and Social Work





Message from the Campus Connections Aotearoa Directors

Our second year at Campus Connections Aotearoa | Tūhono Aioipī proved to be just as exciting and rewarding as our first. In 2018 we welcomed 16 exceptional young people from SENZ, our alternative education (AE) partner in Henderson, and recruited 22 dedicated students from across the Faculties of Education and Social Work, Arts and Science to serve as mentors to the youth and as community mentors supporting the day-to-day running of the programme.

The young people once again inspired and challenged us to ensure the programme was relevant and effective in meeting their needs. It was our great pleasure to walk alongside such a talented and enthusiastic group of young people and watch them grow as a result of their Campus Connections Aotearoa experience. At the same time, our students grew in confidence and in their practice. It was incredibly rewarding to watch a new generation of youth-focused practitioners emerge and to see their skills and relationships with the young people develop over the 12-week programme.

This year we extended our programme offerings to include a broader range of activities based on feedback the young people provided. This included cooking, sports, music, cultural and arts activities. We are blessed to have access to such extensive facilities on our campus, and to be able to share them with our youth participants. It was also truly heart-warming to again welcome so many of the young people's whānau to the campus for the end of programme graduation and poroporoaki.

Our work would not be possible without the amazing support of all our community partners - the Waitakere Alternative Education Consortium,

Achieving@Waitakere, SENZ and their dedicated group of AE tutors who accompanied the young people to Epsom each week over the course of the programme. Thank you all for your continued belief in and support of us and our programme.

We would like to especially acknowledge our management team – Kiri, our Case Manager, and Kate, our Programme Administrator, for the amazing work they do behind the scenes. We could not have achieved what we have without your hard work, dedication and support. We would also like to acknowledge and thank our Board for their advice and guidance and many other colleagues across the Faculty of Education and Social Work who support the programme in various capacities. Finally, we would like to acknowledge our partners at Colorado State University who developed the Campus Connections model. The seed to bring Campus Connections to Aotearoa was planted in 2015 and with your ongoing advice and nurturing support, this seed has grown and flourished into something quite special for our young people, students, the broader Campus Connections Aotearoa community, and us.

As we prepare for our next delivery, we look back and reflect on what we have collectively achieved through this amazing collaboration and look forward to what is to come.

Two handwritten signatures in black ink. The signature on the left is 'Pat Bullen' and the signature on the right is 'Kelsey Deane'.

PAT BULLEN and KELSEY DEANE
Directors, Campus Connections Aotearoa



“Campus Connections [is] a safe place and they’re kind people.”

“I used to be shy, my mentor helped me to come out [of my shell].”

Freedom, age 14, Alternative Education student
Campus Connections Aotearoa mentee in 2018

Programme overview

Campus Connections Aotearoa is an evidence-informed youth mentoring programme that operates at the University of Auckland's Epsom Campus in Semester 2 each year for 12 weeks. Youth, aged 13-16 years and enrolled with an AE provider, are invited to participate in the mentoring programme. University of Auckland students enrolled in a therapeutic youth mentoring course are trained as mentors, paired one-to-one with the youth participants, and supervised by a more experienced student mentor coach.

Approximately 18-25 youth (mentee) and student (mentor) pairs and 4 mentor coaches participate in Campus Connections Aotearoa to form a therapeutic mentoring community. Student counsellors are also part of the mentoring community and available during the programme to provide extra support for each young person when needed.



Young people have opportunities to interact with each other in a safe, supportive, and fun environment. Students have opportunities to develop important skills with the support of an experienced team of professionals and a community of peers.

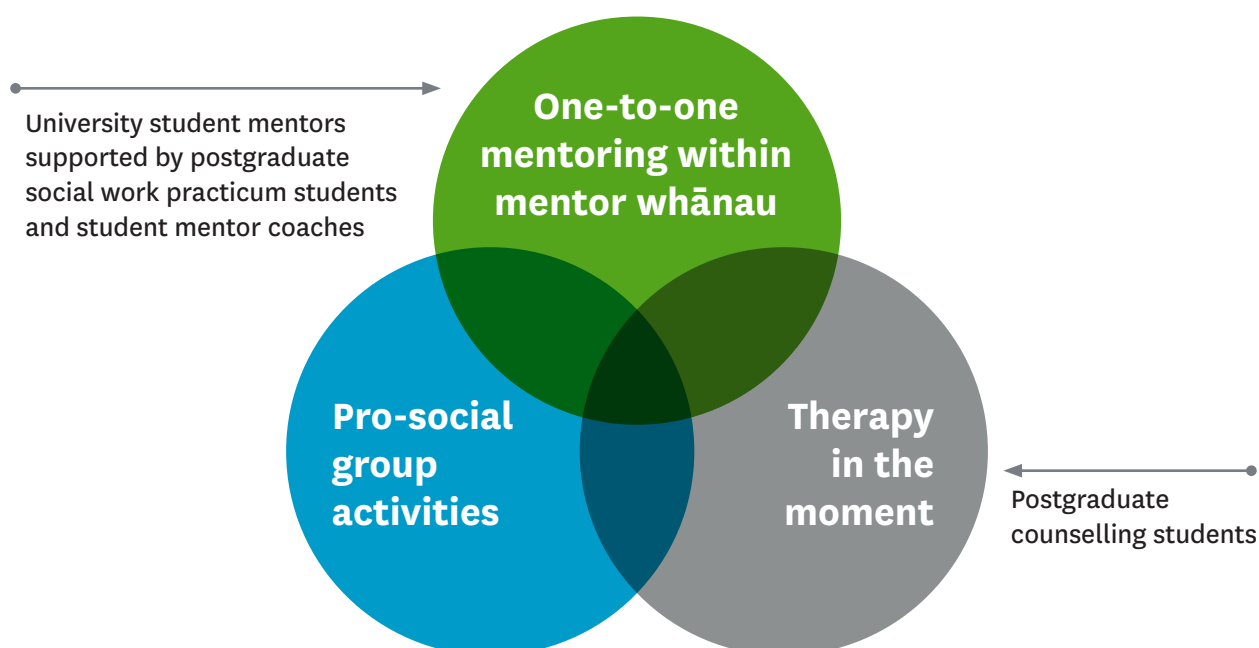
We outline below what a typical day at Campus Connections Aotearoa looks like.

9.30–10.30am	Therapeutic Youth Mentoring Lecture
	Key theory and youth mentoring concepts are presented and discussed for direct application to practice in the coming mentoring session
10.30–11am	Walk and Talk
	Youth arrive and take a 30-minute walk on the University of Auckland campus with their mentor
11am–12pm	Supporting Transition Success
	Mentor-mentee pairs work on youth identified transition plans and personal goals
12–12.30pm	Whānau-style Lunch
	Youth and mentors enjoy a shared meal provided by Campus Connections Aotearoa
12.30–1.30pm 1.30–2.30pm	Pro-social Activities
	Mentor-mentee pairs participate in activities (e.g., educational, sports, music, art) with other Campus Connections Aotearoa youth and student participants
2.30–3.30pm	Group Debrief and Programme Administration
	Mentees depart at 2:30pm. Mentors, student counsellors, and programme leaders engage in a debrief to discuss personal highs and lows from the day's session to provide support and guidance around working with the youth participants



What makes Campus Connections Aotearoa unique?

Campus Connections Aotearoa combines strategies known to be effective under some conditions while mitigating the recognised risks associated with each standalone component.



A powerful multi-level therapeutic mentoring programme designed to help support young people with complex needs



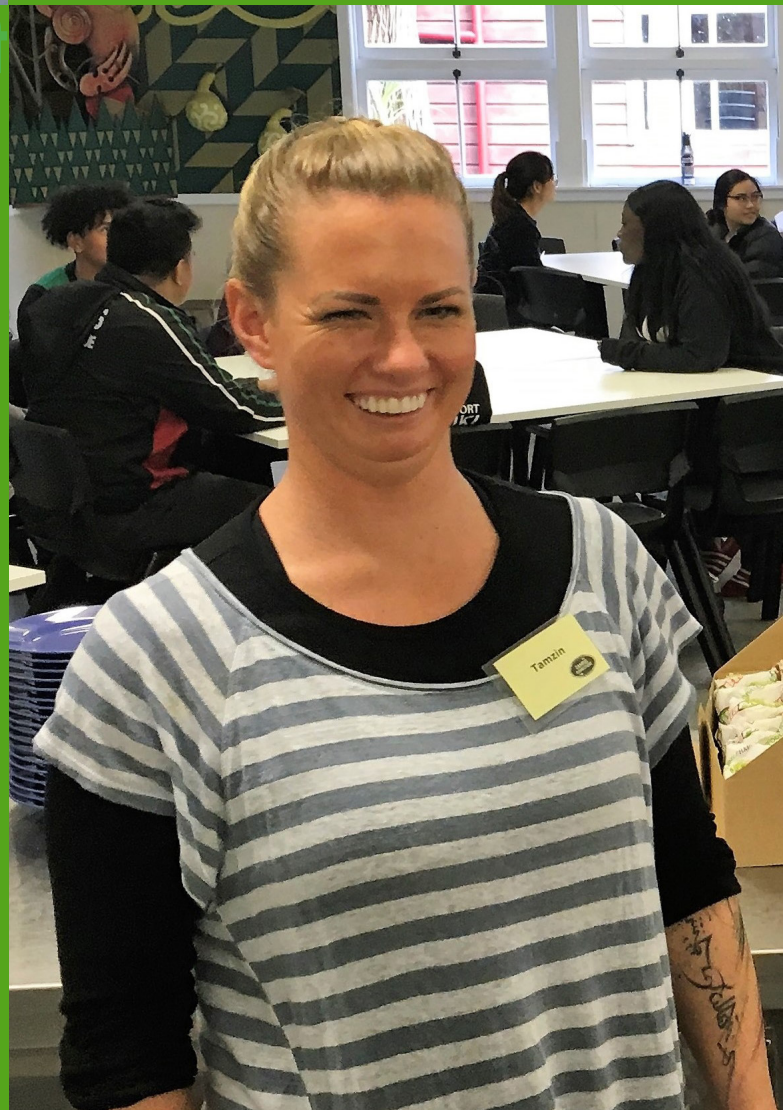
“For me, being a Campus Connections mentor was a profoundly positive experience. I believe that I grew alongside my mentee — and to be able to see their growth was most rewarding. I remember finding myself in awe of the young people’s aspirations for a better future despite their struggles. For me, it was striking to hear that for some mentees, we were among the first adults to really listen to them without judgement. This was really eye-opening, and goes to show the importance of a mentoring relationship for vulnerable young people.”

Rodolfo, Bachelor of Arts (Psychology) student
Campus Connections Aotearoa mentor in 2018

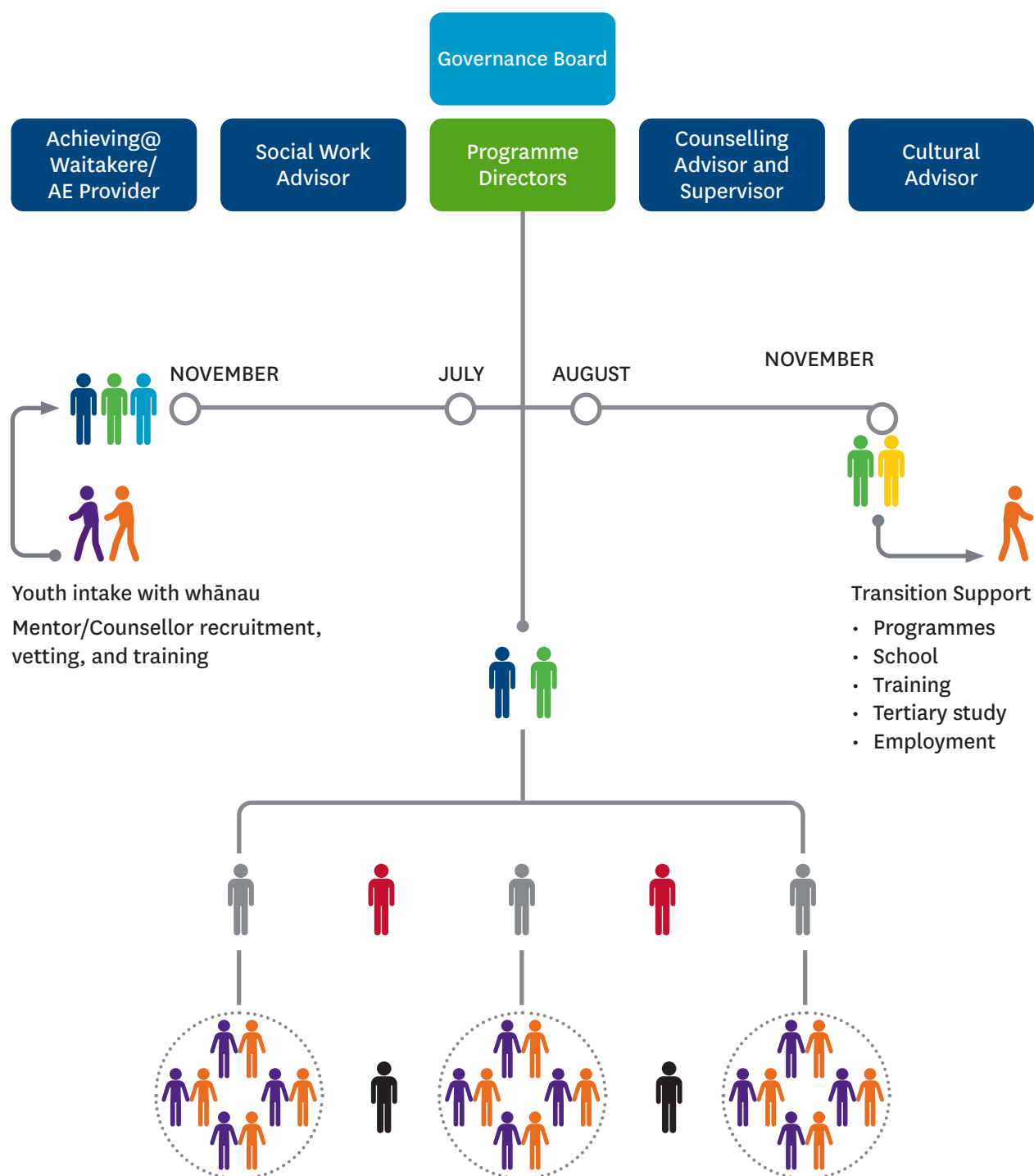
“Being a Campus Connections mentor is up there with the most rewarding experiences of my life. It has been a way to give back to those who have helped me on my own journey. I started as a community mentor which allowed me to observe more experienced mentors in their practise before being eased into the role myself. My confidence quickly grew because the staff were always there for me and the mentoring community supported me the whole way through. I became more skilful and confident in my ability to be a mentor through intense theory and practical experience. Every part of the programme had a purpose and this is what helped us to succeed.”

“Everyone brought so much energy and gave their best efforts. Campus Connections was something I looked forward to, and I couldn’t wait to see the whānau and youth each week. I learnt what my strengths are, and that this is the kind of work I want to do in the future.”

Tamzin, Bachelor of Science (Psychology) student
Campus Connections Aotearoa mentor in 2018



Programme structure and timeline





“[Campus Connections has taught me to]... just believe in yourself. Know you have the potential to do stuff”.

Hama, age 14, Alternative Education student
Campus Connections Aotearoa mentee in 2018



Youth who participated in Campus Connections Aotearoa in 2018 said:

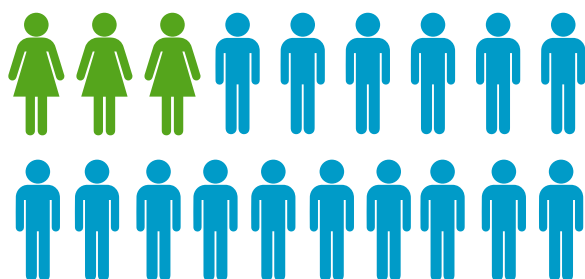
“I feel really good about the people at Campus Connections because of the kindness and how caring they are towards their mentees and the activities were really fun and well organised and everybody is always happy so it’s fun to play with them.”

“I feel that feeling more confident was [a] really good [thing] about the programme because coming into this I was shy and now I’m more confident.”

“The first few weeks of doing Campus Connections was really about me being comfortable of being around people I’ve never met and just trying to make myself not find a reason to not come back. Being honest I only came on Wednesday out of all the days of school for the food but then I realise[d] there was far more fun stuff to learn about and I’m thankful that I took this programme seriously.”

The profile and experiences of the youth who participated in the programme were as follows:

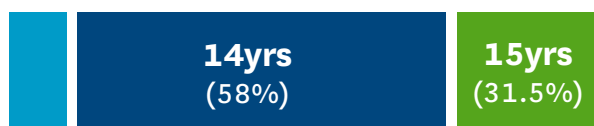
19 YOUTH
14 new
5 returners



16% Female 84% Male

79% Māori 16% Pacific
5% NZ Euro/Pākehā

Participants were aged:



13yrs
(10.5%)

% of Youth reporting improvements due to taking part in the programme*:

90% capability and/or resilience

70% communicating with others

70% feeling good about themselves

70% understanding other people

70% solving problems

70% making friends and connections

60% making decisions for themselves

84%

RETENTION TO THE END OF THE PROGRAMME

100%

were happy or very happy

WITH THE PROGRAMME
AND THE PEOPLE RUNNING IT*



72%

AVERAGE ATTENDANCE*

*Of the 16 youth retained on the programme

*Based on MYD participant survey results. NB. not all youth participated in the end of programme MYD survey.

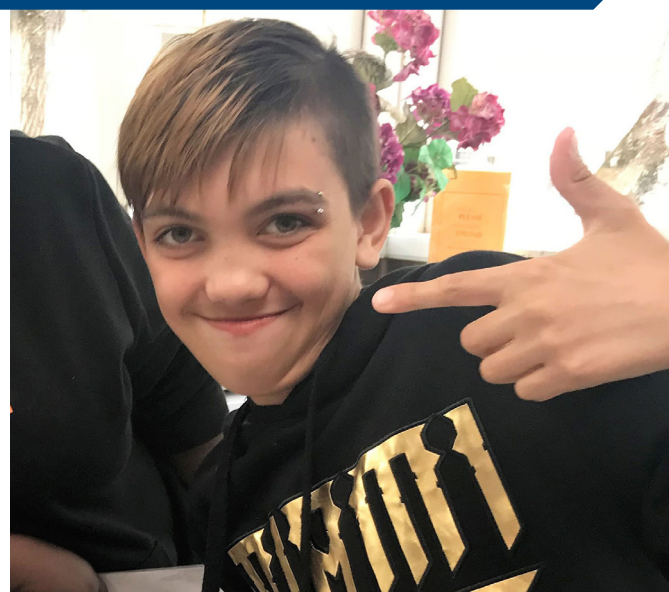


Students who participated in Campus Connections Aotearoa in 2018 said:

“Campus Connections is awesome. The fact that I was able to work alongside some amazing young people, colleagues and staff as well as how organised and well-structured the programme was, [this] was the highlight for me as a mentor and practitioner.”

“I am more confident in my ability to work in social services and with people in general. Everyone in the programme was very supportive and always prioritised what was best for the young people.”

“I really enjoyed the community that was built within Campus Connections, to hear mentees say comments that reflected this brought me a lot of joy - things like ‘I feel like we are family here’.”



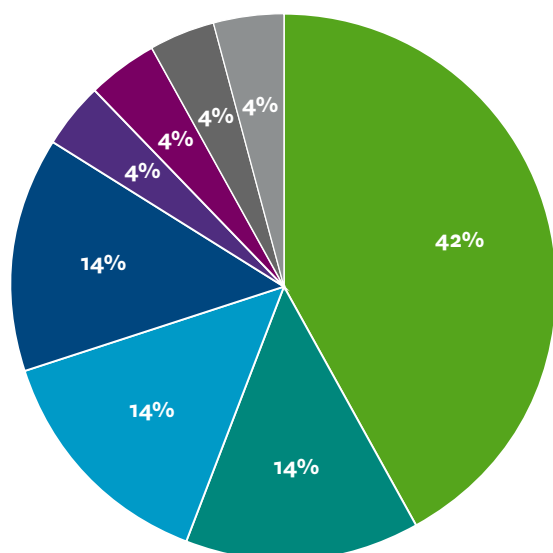
The profile and experiences of the students who participated in the programme were as follows:

22 STUDENTS
16 mentors
6 community mentors



91% Female 9% Male

4% Māori 26% Pacific
26% Asian 9% African
13% Indian 22% NZ Euro/Pākehā



■ Bachelor of Social Work
■ Bachelor of Human Services
■ Bachelor of Arts (Psych)
■ PGDip Counselling
■ PGDip Social Work
■ Master of Social Work (Prof)
■ Master of Counselling
■ Bachelor of Science (Psych)

90% attendance at 14 sessions (2 training days and 12 classes/sessions)

% of students reporting improvements due to taking part in the programme*:

100% capability and/or resilience

100% understanding other people

92% communicating with others

92% feeling more confident

92% making friends and connections

75% managing or organising themselves

67% helping people in their local community

100%

were happy or very happy

WITH THE PROGRAMME
AND THE PEOPLE RUNNING IT*



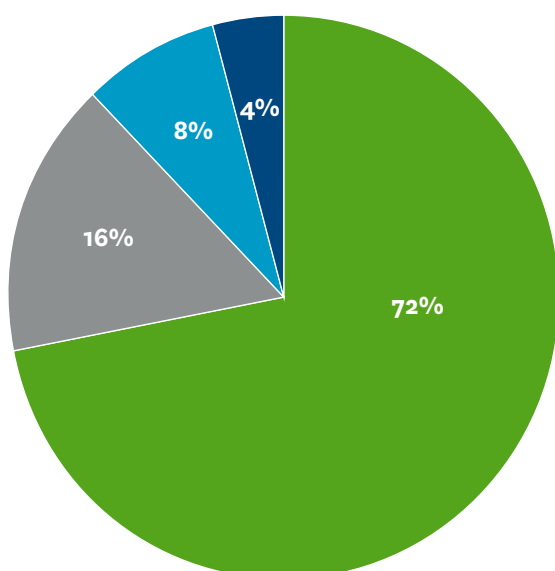
*Based on MYD participant survey results. Not all students participated in the MYD survey.



Mentors & staff - Class of 2018

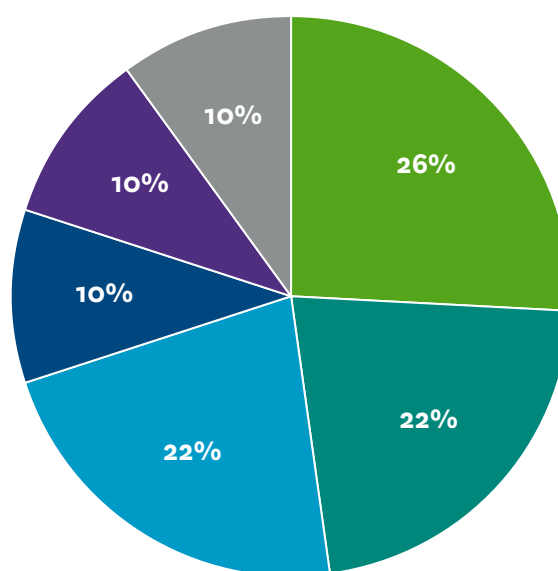
2017 transition data

of the 25 Students:




■ Human services work ■ Unknown
■ Ongoing study ■ Seeking relevant human service work

of the 22 young people:



■ Further training ■ Other AE provider
■ Same AE provider ■ Employed
■ Mainstream school ■ Unknown



“It was kind of like a back stage pass doing placement with CC-A. I got to do quite a lot of different things and one of them was being able to spend time with the youth at SENZ. I was with them twice a week for 6 weeks. I found that quite rewarding because it meant I got to develop a lot of relationships I’d already established from the programme [as a mentor in 2017] but also got to meet the new young people. So I also got a close up experience of being able to cater for the needs that the young people had.

One of my responsibilities was looking after the activities for the programme and it was good to be able to talk to the young people, to get a feel of what they wanted to do in the programme and what kind of activities they most enjoyed. That was pretty special; I knew I wasn’t looking for activities just to fill a slot, but that they were actually activities that the young people wanted to do.”

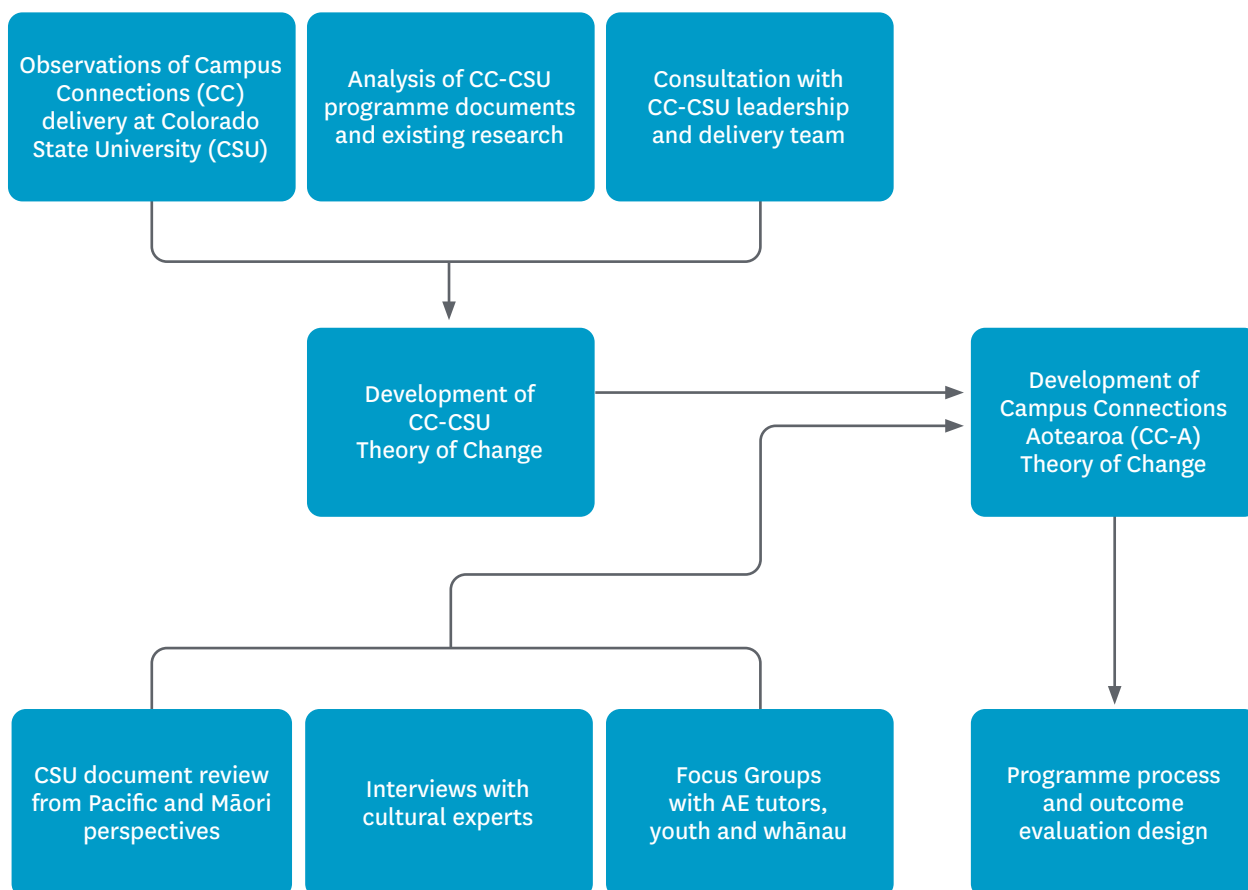
Kali Unuia, Bachelor of Social Work student

Campus Connections Aotearoa mentor in 2017/ 2018 and practicum student in 2018

Campus Connections Aotearoa evaluation and research process

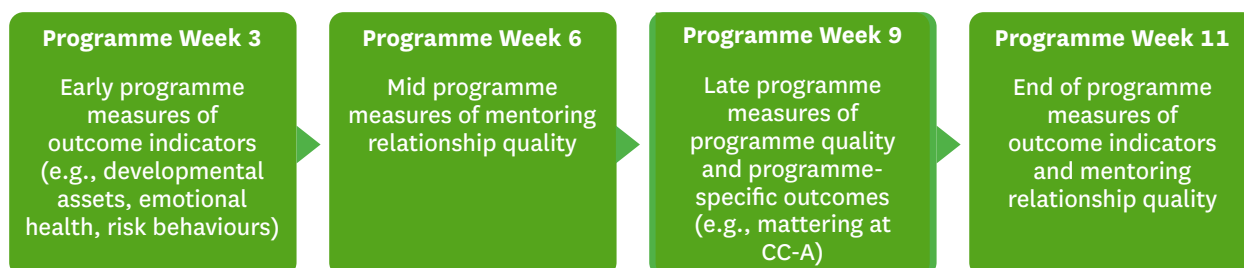
Campus Connections Aotearoa is committed to evidence-informed practice. The Leadership Team draws on existing research and evidence to inform programme design, development, training, and education. With support from consultants, advisors, and research students, the team has also implemented an extensive programme of evaluation research to determine programme effectiveness and to produce programme-specific evidence for ongoing improvement efforts. Cultural translation research to adapt the US-based programme model to the Aotearoa New Zealand context and a theory-driven quasi-experimental evaluation of programme processes and outcomes form the two major strands of the research. The research components and process are outlined below according to pre-delivery, delivery, and post-delivery phases.

Phase 1: Pre-Delivery Programme Design

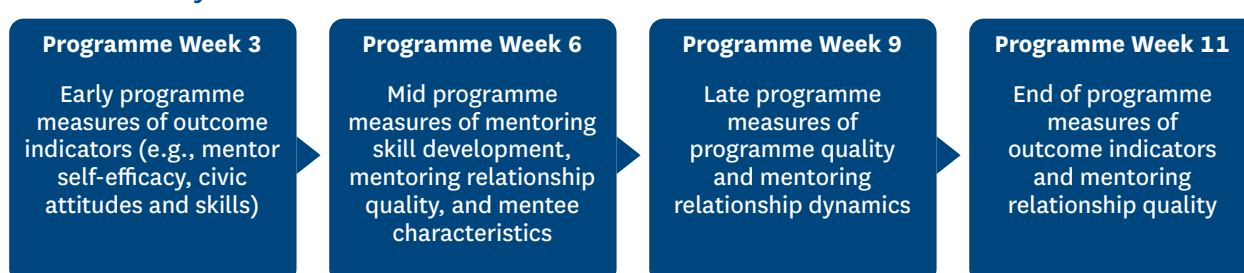


Phase 2: Process and outcome measurement pilot and non-participant observation of programme during delivery

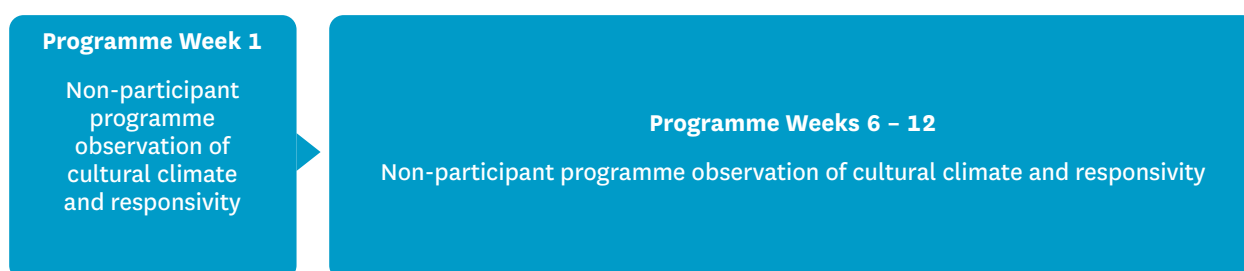
Mentee Survey Measures



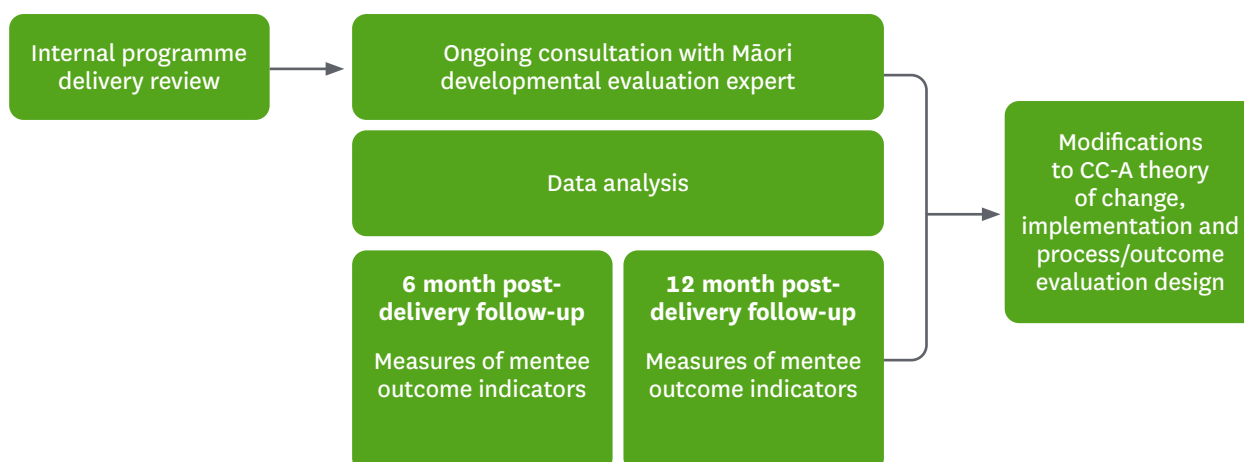
Mentor Survey Measures



Programme observations focused on cultural responsiveness for Māori and Pacific:



Phase 3: Post-delivery review, consultation and outcome measurement follow up



A detailed 2017-2019 Evaluation Report will be available in late 2020 via www.campusconnections.ac.nz

Our governance board



From left to right: Marcia Matthews, Mark Barrow, Kate Anderson, Michelle Wang (no longer on the Board), Cherie Appleton, Kelsey Deane, Scott Samson, Sabrina Zoutenbier, Pat Bullen, Mauna Savea. Absent: Natasha Urale-Baker

Board members

Kate Anderson, Former GM Graeme Dingle Foundation, Experienced NFP Trustee

Cherie Appleton, Social Work Programmes Practice Leader, Faculty of Education and Social Work

Mark Barrow, Dean of the Faculty of Education and Social Work (Chair of the Board)

Pat Bullen, Co-Director, Youth Development Expert, Faculty of Education and Social Work

Kelsey Deane, Co-Director, Youth Development Expert, Faculty of Education and Social Work

Marcia Matthews, Experienced Alternative Education Practitioner

Scott Samson, Director of Waitakere Alternative Education Consortium

Mauna Savea, Campus Connections Aotearoa Mentor 2017

Natasha Urale-Baker, Social Worker, Pasifika Success Mentor, Faculty of Education and Social Work

Sabrina Zoutenbier, Counselling Programmes Practice Leader, Faculty of Education and Social Work

(Michelle Wang has left the University of Auckland. The Board position of Finance Representative is currently unfilled, but is being covered by Faculty Finance team in the interim)

Our staff



From left to right: Kelsey Deane, Pat Bullen, Kiri Wilder, Kate Brookson-Morris

Executive staff

Kate Brookson-Morris,
Programme Administrator

Pat Bullen, Co-Director

Kelsey Deane, Co-Director

Kiri Wilder, Case Manager

Consultants/advisors

Cherie Appleton,
Social Work Advisor

Yvonne Ualesi,
Cultural Advisor, Pasifika

Melinda Webber,
Cultural Advisor, Māori

Nan Wehipeihana,
Evaluation Advisor and Māori
Cultural Guide

Sabrina Zountenbier,
Counselling Advisor

Our partners

Achieving@Waitakere

SENZ

Waitakere Alternative Education
Consortium



Campus Connections Aotearoa | Tūhono Aiopīpī

Faculty of Education and Social Work
The University of Auckland
Private Bag 92601
Symonds Street
Auckland 1150
New Zealand

09 623 8899 ext 48833
021 262 9363

campus.connections@auckland.ac.nz
www.campusconnections.ac.nz

Developed by Colorado State University and adapted by the University of Auckland for the Aotearoa New Zealand context, Campus Connections Aotearoa is delivered under license and in partnership with Colorado State University.

Campus Connections Aotearoa is made possible with the support of:

Badger Communications Ltd
Ministry of Social Development
Ministry of Youth Development
The University of Auckland
Vodafone New Zealand
Vodafone New Zealand Foundation
Other private donors

