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### Places in groups:

- Beginner Reading/Writing
- Beginner Maths
- Learner Licence
- Writing For Police Recruits

# Te Pānui o Literacy Waitākere

## A Path to New Beginnings

Our learners had a lot of input into the design of our new logo, and we asked them what it means to them.

They told us that the pathway is leading towards a better life, going towards a positive environment. Coming here gives learners direction. It gives them a chance to question what they thought they knew in a place where there are no wrong or right answers, no shame or judgment and no failure, only learning in a safe place.

The water or wave represents cleansing and renewing, a fresh perspective. The shape is also like a koru, unfolding, developing and growing.

The path heads towards the sun, because we are all travelling along the road to a new day. Here a diversity of people come together on the same path. We can join together and be one. We are all the same, under the same sun, embraced by the same light. The light from the sun helps

to reveal hidden ideas and make dreams more clear.

Learners say that coming here is a chance to change their lives, to give them hope, to open doors because in the past their struggle with education has been a barrier.



You are invited to: **Literacy Waitākere Annual General Meeting**  
on Wednesday 3rd April at 5pm at Level 1, 3055 Great North Rd, New Lynn  
*Nau Mai Haere Mai Refreshments provided*  
Speaker: Alison Sutton from COMET  
RSVP by 28 March to 09 825 0220 or [info@literacywaitakere.org.nz](mailto:info@literacywaitakere.org.nz)

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### Did you know?

- We have a commitment to provide student-centred learning at no direct cost to the learner.
- We have groups at a range of levels to suit different skills.
- We match learners with others of a similar skill level.
- All our tutors are fully qualified Adult Literacy and Numeracy professionals.
- We welcome referrals from anyone in the community.

## Our Learners Say....

“The teachers are inspiring and encourage us with our development. The teachers make learning fun, and give us skills outside the course – life skills, job skills and study skills.”

“I go to the library more now. I’m not afraid to write in front of people when I’m there.”

“I’m more independent. I don’t need to rely on others so much.”

“I can check I get the correct change, and I can check if I am paying the right price when there are specials. I can work out which price is the best value.”

**Meeting/Seminar/Learning Room for Rent**  
Central New Lynn Location

\* Hourly or long term, regular or casual

Large ground floor meeting room (80m<sup>2</sup>), with kitchen and toilet. Folding door to divide in 2

Contact Jane on 825-0221 for rates and availability, or call in to Literacy Waitākere reception on the first floor

**Prepare for Academic IELTS**

\* Build your skills in English listening, speaking, reading and writing for Academic IELTS testing

Fridays 10.30am starting May 3rd  
Literacy Waitākere, Level 1  
3055 Great North Road, New Lynn  
Phone 825-0220 to enrol  
\$335.00 (incl GST) for 35 hours  
(10 x 3.5 hour sessions)



**Literacy  
Waitākere**  
Whāia te ara ako

Visit our website:  
[www.literacywaitakere.org.nz](http://www.literacywaitakere.org.nz)

### Contact us:

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## What Learning Has Done For Me

Learning for me growing up was quite hard. I didn't like going to school much and even if I did attend, my mind was preoccupied by other things, rather than focusing on the lesson that the teacher was presenting to the class. As a result my performance at school suffered. I only have myself to blame for that. I didn't like how I felt ... isolated, withdrawn, intimidated and embarrassed. A simple task, like filling out application forms for jobs and WINZ, was a real nightmare for me with the jargon and the words they use. So I needed to make some changes to improve my reading and writing comprehension.

I enrolled at Literacy Waitakere. It was the best decision I've ever made. My reading and writing really improved and I was very pleased with the progress I've made. I'm more confident with my ability to be involved a lot more in class activity, answering questions, solving problems. My

confidence has really taken off because I feed off the positive energy from classmates and tutor. It makes learning fun. It's been a magical journey and it's worth it.

Now I've been accepted on another course so I can follow my dream of becoming an IT support person.

JL



The Read Write Spell Moving Along group engaged with a writing exercise

**A huge thank you to all who  
voted for us in the Trusts  
Million Dollar Mission**

## My Literacy Story

I came to Literacy Waitakere to improve my job options and confidence. When assessed by Literacy Waitakere, using the TEC standards, I was under par for a functioning adult in our complex society. Every job I chose would be based on the belief I couldn't do any better. When I was working in the Cinema in London they wanted me to move up to sales. I didn't because there were numeracy and literacy issues.

When I first arrived, I felt relieved that finally I had the opportunity to improve this area of my life. There were also feelings of being overwhelmed by the huge task ahead. These feelings were expected but hard to deal with. I had the support of my doctor, through a counsellor, to deal with those difficult

feelings. I realised that fear of education, of not being good enough, held me back. For example, when faced with government department forms, like tax and WINZ forms, I would stress more and misinterpret what I was reading.

Literacy Waitakere has helped me with navigating and understanding those challenges. I started Pathways Awarua (an online learning tool) and the tutors identified the areas lacking. The TEC assessment proved very useful in this process. Now I can read forms better and understand how I learn.

I would tell others who find literacy challenging to get help and improve so you can deal with a literate society. It's really difficult because you've got to break through the negative feelings like anger, resentment

and negative beliefs. You eventually break through this attitude of feeling dumb, and prove to yourself that's not true. What happens is people could end up not living the life they really want or dream to have. However, when the options become more expansive, life has more hope.



Paul works on a piece of writing with his tutor, Jacqui