



Enrolling
For February 2021 Start

- All levels Read/Write/Spell
- Beginner and Intermediate Computer
- Beginner and Intermediate Maths
- Learner Licence
- IELTS
- Beginner ESOL
- Work Readiness

Te Pānui o Literacy Waitākere

Celebrating our Outstanding Learners

The Festival of Adult Learning (Ahurei Ākonga) ran from 1st to 8th September 2020 although activities were curtailed by Covid-19 restrictions. To mark the week, we nominated two learners for awards.

Viia Lupo - ACE Outstanding Adult Learner

Vee's journey with Literacy Waitakere began in 2017, when she enrolled in a Learner Licence course.

Her perseverance through bouts of illness and cold, wet winters when it was impossible for her to venture out from her home in Onehunga to New Lynn, saw her achieve one of her goals - to gain her Learner Licence! Since then she has also been taking driving lessons and will be able to achieve another of her goals soon - to gain her restricted driver's licence!

While attending several learner licence courses, she also joined a beginner computer group, and then successfully progressed into the intermediate group. Not stopping there, she continued with her determination to learn new skills and gain further confidence in an adult literacy group.

Vee is a great supporter of other learners in her groups, and is always happy to help out with the skills she has gained when

others are finding things difficult. She always has a smile, even when life deals her difficult moments. She loves the independence that coming to Literacy Waitakere gives her, and a chance to be her own person without the help of her family or support workers.



Vee with her Learner Licence tutor Maria

Akiko Irii - ACE Outstanding Adult Learner

Akiko is an exceptional learner who not only demonstrates a positive outlook towards learning but willingly takes on feedback to improve her English. She has a happy and enthusiastic attitude to all learning tasks and contributes great ideas. Akiko asks interesting questions and her questions help her peers gain a deeper understanding of what they have been learning. She offers insightful comments and contributions to class discussions.

Akiko is a team player. She has excellent communication skills and has the ability to work with others in order to achieve the best result. Her cheerful artwork and storytelling ability contribute to a warm and positive learning atmosphere for others in the group.

Akiko has a gentle and sensitive nature. She is a kind friend to her peers. She cares and tries to help other members of the group when they need learning support or seem low in their morale.

Akiko is an absolute pleasure to have in the group. She is a supportive, reliable and committed learner who achieves her best in every opportunity that is provided to her. She deserves to receive the award in recognition of her unwavering commitment to learning and her manaakitanga towards people around her.



Akiko with her tutor Anne.

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Did you know?

- We commit to provide student-centred learning at no direct cost to the literacy learner.
- Learners are in control of their learning. They define their own goals, track their progress, and reassess their goals regularly.
- In many cases, new learners can start immediately and continue as long as they need to.
- We have groups at a range of levels to suit different skills.
- We match learners with others of a similar skill level.
- We have over 40 years of experience in the Adult Literacy field.
- All our tutors are fully qualified Adult Literacy and Numeracy specialists.
- We welcome referrals from anyone in the community.
- We can offer programmes all over Waitākere.



**Literacy
Waitākere**
Whāia te ara ako

Check our website for new pop-up programmes including computer and ESOL: www.literacywaitakere.org.nz

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Facilitation PD Hui

Thanks to funding from ACE Aotearoa, and organized by WACEA (Waitakere Adult and Community Education Aotearoa), Cissy Rock hosted a great Professional Development session on Facilitation for those working in the Adult Education sector.

In spite of the uncertainty around gathering caused by the pandemic, we had more than 30 attendees and feedback was extremely positive.

We considered how to apply the Five Ps of Facilitation to our teaching practice, and to keep in mind the ACE Teaching Standards of Commitment, Knowledge and Practice and the Teaching Values of Manaakitanga (Pastoral care), Rangatiratanga (Learner centred) and Whanaungatanga (Relationships).

Preparation is a key to all facilitation, teaching and tutoring. We need to have clear outcomes for our sessions and backup plans in case things don't go as we expect and to review those outcomes with the

learners so that they can see the progress they have made towards their goals.

We looked at the difference between facilitation and teaching and considered the place of both in what we do and the importance of continual evaluation. We discussed the need to consider different personalities and learning styles. Cissy modeled a variety of techniques—interactive activities and games, whole group work, small groups or pairs, individual reflection time.

We had some role plays of issues brought up by members of the group and discussed and reviewed ways of dealing with difficult learners. This was a useful session and many wished it could have been longer!



Into the Bush

With a lack of overseas tourists to entertain, Bush and Beach kindly offered a group of our learners a free trip to visit the bush of the Waitākere Ranges, Piha Beach and Arataki Visitors' Centre.

Learners from Thursday's Read Write Spell Adult Literacy group and Emergent Plus English Language group had a wonderful and educational outing.

For some it was their first time in the bush or on the beach, and they found it a great learning experience, but also very relaxing. They said the guides were very informative and that it was great to share these special west coast places with their groups and to learn some of the history of the area. They were impressed that

the place they had their picnic lunch had been a Māori settlement hundreds of years ago. The guide explained the stories and meanings of some of the local place names. It gave them a deeper sense of connection with the Waitākere Ranges and a respect for its history.

Two topics that they found particularly interesting were learning a bit about bush medicine and also beach safety. They learnt to recognise some of the plants that are important in Rongoā Māori (traditional Māori healing) such as kawakawa and Manuka which are used for ointments and medicinal teas.

At the beach, they learnt how to recognize an area of the sea where there is a rip, and how important it is to swim between the flags where the surf lifeguards are patrolling.

Many thanks, Bush and Beach!



Bush and Beach
Leaders in Sustainable Tourism for 36 Years