

7.2 Glossary of Maori terms

Maori term	English equivalent in context
Aotearoa	New Zealand
hapu	clan
harakeke	New Zealand flax, <i>Phormium tenax</i>
hauoratanga	good health
hinengaro	mental
hua	result, fruit
hui	conferences
ika	fish
ira tangata	human element of life
iwi	kin group, public, communities
kai	food
kaitiaki	guardian, guardianship
kaitiakitanga	guardianship
kaumatua	elder, elders
kaupapa	topic, project
kawa	ritual
kawai whakaheke	lines of descent
kuia	female elder
kumara	sweet potato
kura kaupapa	school using Maori as the medium of instructions
mana	prestige, standing
mana tangata tiaki	standing as a custodian for cultural matters
marae	meeting house
mauri	life principle, principle
Pakeha	European, non-Maori
rangatahi	young Maori
rangatiratanga	independence, dominion
riwai	potato
rongoa	medicine
runanga	councils, boards
taha	element, aspect
taiao	environment, world view
tamariki	children

Tane Mahuta	Tane, God of Forests
Tangaroa	Tangaroa, God of Seas
tangata whenua	local people, native people
taonga	assets, belongings
taonga tuku iho	treasures handed down from the ancestors
tapu	inviolable
Te Ao Maori	the Maori world
Te Puni Kokiri	Ministry of Maori Development
te reo (te reo Maori)	the Maori language
Te Tiriti o Waitangi	Treaty of Waitangi
teina	younger sister of a female, younger brother of a male
tika	correct
tikanga	culture, cultural, customs
tinana	physical
tino rangatiratanga	independence
tuakana	older sister of a female, older brother of a male
tupuna	ancestor
wairua	spirit
whakapapa	genealogy, heredity
whanau	family
whenua	land