

# Consultancy in Mantle of the Expert / Drama



Institute of  
Professional Learning  
*Te Whai Toi Tangata*  
THE UNIVERSITY OF WAIKATO



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**WAIKATO**  
*Te Whare Wānanga o Waikato*



## Dr Viv Aitken

Senior Consultant, Professional Learning  
*Institute of Professional Learning,*  
University of Waikato  
[vmck@waikato.ac.nz](mailto:vmck@waikato.ac.nz)  
Mob: +64 21 1086634

Viv Aitken is an internationally regarded practitioner and researcher with twenty years' experience in Arts Education and Teacher Education. Viv has worked with preservice and inservice teachers (first at Waikato University and more recently at EIT), has been a specialist Arts teacher and for a number of years facilitated a drama group for adults with intellectual disabilities. She is a fully registered teacher and holds a Masters and PhD in theatre.

Viv has contributed to a number of books and other publications related to Education, including *Connecting Curriculum, Linking Learning* (NZCER, 2013) and *Facing the Big Questions in Teaching* (Cengage, 2014). She has convened numerous conferences and symposia and enjoys facilitating networks to bring teachers together. She is convenor of [www.mantleoftheexpert.co.nz](http://www.mantleoftheexpert.co.nz)

As a senior consultant on the team at Waikato University's *Institute of Professional learning*, Viv supports teachers to plan and implement creative classroom experiences. In particular, she enjoys helping teachers develop the confidence and skills to use drama to create sustained, meaningful learning experiences across the curriculum. With her support, a number of individuals and teams in schools around New Zealand have transformed their teaching approach, with positive results for engagement and achievement levels.

*"In 10 years of teaching, this was the most worthwhile professional development I've done. Mantle of the Expert is now an integral part of my classroom program and one which has had an extremely positive impact on student learning and engagement ... Viv's enthusiasm for and knowledge of Mantle of the Expert needs to be taken advantage of by more teachers!"*

***Renee Downey Classroom teacher / Curriculum Development Leader, Otaika Valley Primary School  
[commenting on 2015 summer school]***

Viv is available to work with your school or organisation to provide tailored professional development, mentoring and ongoing support in the following areas:

- Process drama
- Drama for learning
- Dramatic inquiry – Dorothy Heathcote's *Mantle of the Expert*
- Drama for performance
- Presentation skills and vocal confidence

[www.waikato.ac.nz/professionallearning](http://www.waikato.ac.nz/professionallearning)