

## Our Presenters:



**Dr Viv Aitken**

Dr Viv Aitken is a Ministry Accredited professional development facilitator with Tātai Angitu E3@ Massey and a research associate with University of Waikato.

Over the last ten years, Viv has worked alongside teachers and school leaders around Aotearoa, supporting them to develop skills and knowledge in dramatic inquiry; play, drama for learning, process drama and the cross-curricula teaching approach the Expert (see [www.mantleoftheexpert.co.nz](http://www.mantleoftheexpert.co.nz)).

Viv is a regular contributor to conferences and in 2019 she was keynote speaker for The National Literacy Association and Drama New Zealand.



**Renee Downey**

Renee Downey is year 5 and 6 teacher and curriculum leader at Otaika Valley School with more years teaching experience than fingers to count them on.

She started using Mantle of the Expert 6 years ago and has since led the development of a dramatic inquiry based school curriculum at Otaika Valley.

After completing a Teacher Led Innovation Fun project into the effectiveness on Mantle in regards to improving writing outcomes for students and a Masters research thesis which looked at the longitudinal effects of Mantle of the Expert she has become a strong advocate for the use of dramatic inquiry approaches within schools.



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