



AOTEAROA

New Zealand

Professional Learning Sequence

Travel Itinerary

June 19, 2026: Auckland

Arrive in Auckland. **Please pay close attention when you book your flight to ensure you arrive in Auckland on or before June 19th. You will cross the date line and lose a day on your journey there.** Rob will meet you at the hotel. You'll have the day to explore the Auckland Harbor area to accommodate for jet lag. Possibilities include the waterfront, the popular Viaduct Harbor, and Queen's Wharf, where you can see Rangitoto Island (volcanic) across the bay. You might even choose to take a ferry ride around the harbor. The group will meet in the evening to launch our learning journey, review the travel itinerary, and dine together.

June 20, 2026: Travel to Northland

We'll travel up to Northland to explore the unique culture of the Māori people. During our voyage north, we'll stop for lunch at a scenic location where we can view the distant Poor Knights Islands and gain a better understanding of the coastal life of the New Zealand people. Dinner and evening exploration on your own in Paihia.

June 21, 2026: Waitangi Treaty Grounds

The day will be spent at the Waitangi Treaty Grounds where the important and controversial Treaty of Waitangi was signed between the Māori people and Great Britain. We'll learn about the historical significance and challenges associated with the Treaty. Explorers will have opportunities to draw connections between the historical treatment of Indigenous People in both New Zealand and the USA. Lunch is on your own at the cafe.

June 22, 2026: School Visit

We'll visit a local elementary school that serves predominantly Māori students, and learn about the Pākehā (white settlers) and Māori relationship and how that history has shaped the schooling experience. During our visit we will have the opportunity to learn about the New Zealand curriculum and explore how schools are making learning equitable and culturally-relevant, and attending to the SEL needs of their students. Be prepared to share your culture with the students! Dinner on your own in Paihia or Russell.

June 23, 2026: Travel to Auckland

On the route back to Auckland, we'll stop in the rainforest to be near a waterfall to reflect on our personal learning and develop plans for bringing ideas back to our local schools. Depending on time and weather, we'll stop to see some of New Zealand's largest kauri trees. Once in Auckland, we'll have the evening to explore more of the city.

June 24, 2026: School Visit

Today we'll visit a high school that is known for its innovative approach to educating students and professional learning. We will have the opportunity to tour the school, visit classes, and meet with teachers and school leaders. This school visit will provide us with opportunities to see an entire school built upon students exploring their passions. After the visit, we'll stop in Devonport for some north shore exploration. You can choose to ride back with us to downtown Auckland, or stay longer and take the ferry across later.

June 25, 2026: School Visit

Today we'll visit a local multicultural elementary school that is known for its celebrations of cultures and has recently undergone major facility upgrades. This school visit will provide us with opportunities to see a school built upon embracing and celebrating differences. Explorers will have the afternoon to explore more of Auckland. We'll conclude the day with a farewell dinner.

June 26, 2026: Travel Home or Extension

Explorers will travel home or continue on their own for independent exploration of New Zealand.

**Itinerary subject to change depending on local conditions and school availability*