**Kaharau Keogh** *(BA, BMus, GDipTeach, TPOTRM, Pouono)*

* Kaiako | Kairākau | Kaihaka | Kaipuoro
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Kaharau is a certified teacher and has been working in the education sector for the last 7 years. Benefiting from designations such as Cultural Advisor, Project Leader, Deputy’s Assistant, Community Liaison, Prefect Mentor, Specialist Tutor, and Technical NCEA Standard Writer - working in mainstream schools, full immersion kura Māori and Te Tāhuhu o te Mātauranga (MoE).

Kaharau is an adept Māori orator, an experienced performer of *Kapa Haka*, an accomplished practitioner of *Mau Rākau* (Māori Martial Arts), and most importantly, a devoted tangata whenua of Ngāpuhi, Maniapoto and Pare-Hauraki descent. His hapū include *Ngāti Korokoro* of the Hokianga Harbour, *Ngāti Huiao* of Southern Waikato, and *Ngāti Tara-Tokanui* of the Hauraki Plains.

Kaharau comes from a family of fluent Reo Māori speakers, privileged to an education through *Kohanga Reo*, *Kura Kaupapa Māori* and *Kura ā-Iwi* movements.

Further pursuing his passion for his Māori culture, martial and creative arts as a career, Kaharau graduated from *Otago* and *Waikato Universities*, as well as, *The Institute of Excellence in the Māori Language* whilst completing up to grade 6/8 at *The International School of Māori Weaponry* (TWTTOA).

After the pandemic, Kaharau has since settled in Kirikiriroa, Hamilton, lately engaged in the resolute vocation of fatherhood shortly after marrying his wife, Rangiiria, in 2021. Kaharau now veers toward freelance-contract work such as language advisory, translation, language program coordination to be able to spend more time at home. Kaharau hopes to instil and impress the unwavering love and value he has for kaupapa Māori upon his daughter and whānau, in an effort to further contribute to his culture, community and his people.

**“ He kupu tuku iho mō tēnei reanga.”**

*Holdfast to the language, knowledge and teachings of our ancestors.*