

# Te Hiku Media Papa Reo — AI speech recognition and pronunciation tools for te reo Māori learners

AI in Education · Good practice · New Zealand

Quality score: 67/100

Evidence strength: Descriptive / self-reported

## Summary

Te Hiku Media's Papa Reo project (NZD 13 million, MBIE 2019–2026) built AI speech recognition (92% accuracy) and a pronunciation app for te reo Māori learners, governed under an indigenous data-sovereignty (kaitiakitanga) framework cited globally as a replicable model.

## Key dimensions

| Dimension                              | Score |
|----------------------------------------|-------|
| Evidence of learning impact            | 1/3   |
| Equity & inclusion                     | 3/3   |
| Transparency, ethics & data protection | 3/3   |
| Teacher capability & pedagogy          | 1/3   |
| Scalability & sustainability           | 2/3   |

Evaluated by C-NAPSE

## Data sources

[C-NAPSE web research](#) — accessed 2026-06-24

[Te Hiku Media](#) — accessed 2026-06-24

[Papa Reo platform](#) — accessed 2026-06-24

[NVIDIA blog — Māori Speech AI Model](#) — accessed 2026-06-24

[MIT Technology Review — AI for the people \(April 2022\)](#) — accessed 2026-06-24

[ACL 2024 paper — TTS for te reo Māori on edge devices](#) — accessed 2026-06-24

Cite this — Evidoria. *Te Hiku Media Papa Reo — AI speech recognition and pronunciation tools for te reo Māori learners*. Persistent ID: 12476a48-de52-4a47-9a00-1589e489aa09.