# Ka tipu nga kahikatea (Growing the Kahikatea tree)

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| “The overall vision of the school is the liberation of children and whanau to be able to access learning out in the community, that transport is no barrier and that a child on a bike or a scooter can reach any part of their community and benefit from the learnings available on their doorstep.” Maurice Rehu, Principal Irongate School  The objective of ‘Ka Tipu nga Kahikatea’ was to grow a pool of teachers in Irongate school, with the skills necessary for the implementation of a safe sustainable active transport program at the school. Through the provision of our cycle instructor training program a pool of local learning coaches are now leading the delivery of bike skills to tamariki and whanau throughout the community.  The program has also inspired leadership amongst adults who held a long-term belief that they would never be able to ride a bike. They are now leading by example and in doing so they are encouraging others to give it a go.  By using the Locally Led Approach to take the time to understand and acknowledge the strengths of the community to co-create solutions we were able to engage 12 key stakeholders. We built relationships that would strengthen the foundations for a well-connected community and which we could overcome barriers to adopting the behaviours of a healthy lifestyle rather than a one-off program that offered a short term experience. |