

Voices of tamariki and rangatahi in Tāmaki Makaurau

In 2022 Auckland Council asked children and young people about what it's like to grow up in Tāmaki Makaurau. We wanted to know what you love about Auckland, what you think could be improved, and your hopes and dreams for the future. Over 400 of you responded through postcards at events, spoken word poetry workshops, storybooks in libraries, and one on one interviews. This is what you told us:



“We love living in Tāmaki Makaurau”

We heard that you love Auckland, particularly the parks, playgrounds, beaches, cultural events and festivals.

- We heard about the diversity of the city – its people, food, landscape, and opportunities.
- You love that there is so much life and energy in Tāmaki Makaurau.

“Life in Tāmaki Makaurau could be improved”

We heard your frustrations about growing up in Auckland.

- Unreliable and inaccessible public transport makes it difficult to get around and stay connected.
- Some of you are concerned about crime and don't always feel safe.
- You care about the environment and want it looked after.





“Life is hard for some of us”

Some of you shared the challenges you face.

- Some of you experience poverty, racism, bullying, and live with a mental health condition.
- Life can feel unfair, especially when you are judged before people get to know you.

“Strong relationships are important”

Many of you told us how much you love and care for your family and friends.

- Strong relationships can help you navigate many of the challenges you face.
- These supportive relationships can be found with anyone – whānau, friends, teachers, and youth workers.



“We want a safe and inclusive future where everyone belongs”

You have beautiful dreams for your futures. Many of you wish that your family and friends will be safe and happy.

- You look forward to a good education and job, owning a house, and spending time with loved ones.
- You hope to be a part of a Tāmaki Makaurau where you can have your say, and everyone belongs.



Thank you for sharing your voice with us. These reflections are an important part of our mahi reviewing I Am Auckland, council’s strategic action plan for children and young people.

You can read the full report Voices of Children and Young People from Tāmaki Makaurau [here](#).

