



## Waka Tīwai : Waikato

### *What it's about:*

#### **Do Gifted Students need Gifted Teachers?**

This is a personally challenging question I am always exploring as I seek to best meet the needs of my students. I am not gifted so I am constantly considering what I bring to the table as a teacher who designs curriculum for gifted students. The conclusion I have come to is that my teaching strategies and questioning techniques are what the students need from me - they need me to provide the tools to access and synthesize their research, to coach them through a process, they don't need me to transfer knowledge from my head to theirs. My job is to support them to work through their own ideas and perspectives and present challenges that build empathy, resilience, collaboration and critical thinking. This is a really exciting space to be part of and I am very much looking forward to sharing my passion for developing 21st Century, ready to work skills, into programs that challenge our gifted students and push them beyond their comfort zones.

The workshop will cover why it is important to ensure you are teaching the whole person and how you, as a passionate teacher, can have an impact on the student's long term success. You will hear about JEEP at Hillcrest High School and the experiences that are included to support student's growth and development, including some examples of the tools that we use to encourage innovative thinking and creative outcomes

### *Meet your Facilitator:*

Your facilitator is Jodie Terry.



Jodie has been teaching and leading JEEP (Junior Enrichment and Extension Program) at Hillcrest High School for 7 years. She is constantly searching for ways to ensure there is a focus on development of the whole person within an enrichment program.