

Kūaha Park and the spirit of movement.

Waterfront
CBD
dog park
Stream

Wairau main road
Nelson Square

Masterplan

active > passive
playing > learning
exploration > reflection

Beech Grove
slower rhythm of movement. Opening
back up, calm environment.

Podocarp garden area
soft, layered canopy for shade and calm,
private relaxing area

Playground & Picnic Lawn entrance
active space for families and gatherings,
featuring coastal plantings

secondary entrances

Educational Garden

Public facilities

Piriiri Amphitheatre

primary entrances

Star Compass Wetland Basin
Subtle landform shaping channels stormwater
into the wetland for natural filtration.

Amphitheatre Seating
Point Piri Viewshaft, visual connection
to the landscape beyond

General sections

perspectives

KŪAHA PARK

Growing direction, nurturing connection

Adam Andrews & Monymarlina Chan - Group 8

Through our exploration of Waitohi, we were drawn to its defining sense of directionality; a place shaped by movement, cultural depth, and connection. Waitohi holds both a warm welcome and a heartfelt departure, with a spirit of hospitality rooted in people and place. Beyond this gesture lies an enduring rhythm of orientation: the way the land, sea, and sky continually guide those who inhabit and visit it. From this idea, Kūaha Park emerged, as a living landscape that acts as a microcosm of Waitohi, celebrating navigation in both its physical and cultural forms to bring a community of both locals and visitors together.

The park's geometry draws from the Māori star compass, symbolising guidance and discovery. Its wetland is shaped like a compass needle, directing movement through the site toward key destinations: the educational garden, playground, and amphitheatre aligned with the Point Piri viewshaft. The design traces Waitohi's story through connected landscapes. Each zone: coastal, wetland, and forest, showcases a fragment of its ecology and culture. Sculptural waypoints guide movement, inspired by the compass that shapes the park's form and spirit.

Recycled railway sleepers form the amphitheatre seating, a tactile link to Waitohi's heritage of connection and transit. Pathways extend beyond the park to the surrounding trails and the township's streetscape, strengthening links with the Picton CBD and encouraging slow, walkable exploration.

Through light-touch landform shaping, regenerative planting, and amplifying existing water flows, Kūaha Park restores ecological balance while revealing the spirit of Waitohi as a landscape that guides, grows, and connects its community.



PLEASE, PROVIDE FEEDBACK FOR THE PROJECT AND DESIGNS

