



IMAgEN8

Nurturing a love for Nature

Photography workshops that connect students with Nature, enhance their wellbeing and foster environmental stewardship through creative expression

The goal of our work with children and young adults is to develop their **love for Nature**. The strength of this love and **deepening of connections to our physical world** improves their **mental wellbeing**, fosters increased **awareness for the environment**, builds **compassion**, and manifests as **kaitiakitanga** (guardianship).

We pursue these aspirations by giving students the opportunity to **spend time in Nature**, exploring and experimenting with **mindful nature photography**. The students learn digital photography skills, expand their creative writing, and enhance their ability to see the wonders of the natural world all around them. They love seeing their photographs printed, enjoy writing captions and are thrilled when they see their work published in a digital magazine and an inspirational book.

We believe that by forming deep connections and love for our natural environment, we are **happier, more compassionate, conserve what we love, and live sustainably**. This fuels our passion to work with diverse communities, ages, and schools, so we can contribute to fostering a more sustainable society and planet for us all.

IMAgEN8 is a **registered charity**

NATURE PHOTOGRAPHY WORKSHOPS

- Offered at schools, reserves and parks in the Auckland region for students aged 8-14 years. Workshop duration is one to two hours, with 5-10 students per session.
- Aligns with digital learning, visual arts, well being and ecological sustainability areas in the NZ curriculum, and helps develop students' language, symbols and texts competency. Workshops give them the opportunity to be creators of content with nature as the context.
- Students receive prints of their pictures, and are published in a Nature Photography book and the [Compassionate Nature digital magazine](#).
- Cost of workshops is \$300/workshop including prints. IMAgEN8 is a registered charity. Koha, donations and income help carry the work forward.
- Tushar Sharma (www.tusharma.com) is IMAgEN8's Director and Principal Educator.





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5 schools and groups

34 Workshops

242 Students

5 Books

"It has long been acknowledged that being in nature is good for one's general wellbeing and this opportunity to experience moments of wonder around the school was certainly very rewarding for students. It is hoped that a spark of creativity has been lit so that in future years these students will marvel at the beauty in the world; that they will find joy in everyday scenes - from watching a pigeon scrounge for titbits, to appreciating the exquisite colour, fragrance and symmetry of a flower in spring." - Ms. Anne McDonnell, Year 7 Teacher, Remuera Intermediate School



*Tē toi whakairo, ka ihiihi, ka wehiwehi, ka aweawe te ao katoa.
Artistic excellence makes the world sit up in wonder.*

