

## Info Sheet for *Africa To Aotearoa* Video Submissions

The *Africa To Aotearoa* project is collecting video footage of people reciting what they know of their family history as part of the wider project on genetics and human migrations. Examples of the footage collected so far can be seen here on YouTube: <https://youtu.be/r1A-jzGUcZ0>. These students have talked to their family history in response to the question “what do you know of your family history?”, usually starting with their name and where they were born and working backwards as far as they like and including any anecdotes they want to share.

We welcome further contributions from school students whose schools are taking part in using the teaching resource and free DNA testing kit as part of their learning. Due to constraints in storing large quantities of footage we would appreciate if each school limits their total supplied video to between 5-7 minutes. This will require the selection of a few of the best student presentations to upload to our YouTube site. Despite this limit, we encourage this activity for an entire class as schools taking part thus far have found the exercise a valuable learning experience for all students to take part. In watching their classmates speak to their family history, students often learn things they didn't previously know about their classmates thereby gaining greater empathy and appreciation of the diversity of backgrounds in our New Zealand population.

### **Video requirements:**

-We would prefer HD footage, if an HD camera is not available to you, then many modern phones will record in HD. If using a phone, please still try and mount it in a stable holder or tripod, rather than using handheld and ensure that it is able to record the subject's speaking voice adequately.

-Choose a uniform background that is not too busy and have your subject sit at least two metres forward of the background to give them some separation. If you can see your subject's shadow on the wall behind them, this is too close.

-Place your subject in a comfortable seated position so that they do not fidget excessively. They should be in a well-lit position with even and preferably soft light of a slightly higher level than the background.

-Place your camera close enough to the subject so that their voice will be recorded clearly and so that their shoulders take up around one third of the frame width. The top of their head should be around one third of the frame height from the top of the frame. The first subject in the example video linked above clearly demonstrates this spacing with the library shelving marking the 'thirds' lines.

-Ensure your camera is able to reliably focus on the subject and check that focus does not hunt or move in and out while recording a test.

-If you are able to set the white balance on your camera choose the preset option that best suits your recording environment, this will usually be flourescent or tungsten depending on the lighting in the classroom.

-Make sure your subject is ready and get them to say something mundane to help their speaking voice relax and so that you can check that sound levels are being recorded adequately. It is very important that their voice be recorded clearly. For this reason a video camera with an external microphone gives the best quality.

-Encourage the students to project their voices and to look straight at the camera as if speaking to it. We are not looking for highly polished and practised presentations, but if the student stumbles over their words excessively and loses their composure then it may be worth doing another 'take'.

### **Uploading the videos:**

-Once you have chosen which presentations make up the 5-7 minutes of footage you would like to contribute then these need to be edited into together into one file for uploading. This can be done in specialist software such as Adobe Premiere if available, or the more basic freely available video editing programs such as Movie Maker for Windows or iMovie on Mac. Title your file with the name of your school.

-A .mov file is the preferred format, but You Tube accepts most formats, refer to You tube's help section for more information:

[https://support.google.com/youtube/answer/57407?hl=en&ref\\_topic=2888648](https://support.google.com/youtube/answer/57407?hl=en&ref_topic=2888648)

-You Tube is part of Google, so you will need to log in to our You Tube account using the *Africa To Aotearoa* Google login. If already logged in to a Google account when navigating to You Tube you will need to log out of that account or choose to 'Add Account' by clicking the circular account logo at the top right of your browser window, otherwise the video will not appear on our channel. The details for our account are Google login: **africatoaotearoa** Password: **mtdna2015**. Please do not share this account information with others and log out from our account once the video has uploaded successfully.

-Depending on your location, Google may block you from logging in with this information by the way of their automated security. If this happens we will unblock you once we receive notification of this, so trying again after a few days should work. But if you have ongoing problems then another option is to upload the video to the Google application Google Photos. Google Photos is the only application that allows direct uploading to YouTube and avoids us having to download the video and then re-uploading it to YouTube. Once your video is uploaded to Google Photos then share it with us at [africatoaotearoa@gmail.com](mailto:africatoaotearoa@gmail.com) so that we may manually add it to YouTube on your behalf.

-Please notify us on [africatoaotearoa@gmail.com](mailto:africatoaotearoa@gmail.com) once you have uploaded and published the video,

so that we can check it is working.

-The videos may be used as part of a wider exhibition in the future, so please ensure that your school has the appropriate consent from students and parents in order to record this material.