

Education Report: Proposed establishment of new primary school in Massey Redhills

To:	Hon Chris Hipkins, Minister of Education		
Date:	1 December 2021	Priority:	High
Security Level:	In Confidence	METIS No:	1277623
Drafter:	Ken White Senior Adviser Network	DDI:	09 632 9433
Key Contact:	Janet Schofield, Manager Network	DDI:	09 632 9533
Messaging seen by Communications team:	Yes	Round Robin:	No

Purpose of Report

This report seeks your decision on establishment of a proposed new Year 1-8 primary school. Massey Redhills Primary School is planned to open for instruction at all year levels in Term 1, 2023.

We recommend you approve the establishment of the school.

Summary

- 1 The Massey Redhills area is located in the Massey Hobsonville Kaipara catchment of the New Zealand Education Growth Plan (NEGP). This area has been identified as an area of significant future growth. Large scale Special Housing Areas will enable market led growth, housing developments and infrastructure improvements in the Redhills area. It is estimated that there will be approximately an additional 3,340 Year 1 – 8 primary aged students in this network by 2032.
- 2 In addition, the Auckland Future Urban Land Supply Strategy anticipates a dwelling capacity of 1,400 in Redhills North, that will generate approximately 440 primary aged students. This is expected to be development ready by 2028.

- 3 A new Year 1 – 8 primary school is required by 2023, to support greenfield growth in this catchment. It is planned that the school will open with an initial roll of 250 students. A preferred site for the school has been identified, but we have not yet secured acquisition of the site. As a result we will provide additional capacity for the new school at a site we own at Trig Road, Whenuapai, until the new school site is acquired and the school build is completed.
- 4 The site at Trig Road was purchased in 2005 as a long-term acquisition. It is proposed that the Massey Redhills Primary School is on this site until we have secured our preferred site. The roll growth in this network is such that we need capacity before the permanent site is acquired. We anticipate that this temporary capacity at Trig Road site will be required for up to two years.
- 5 Schools within this Massey Hobsonville Kaipara catchment are already at or over capacity with large scale housing developments occurring at a rapid pace. The proposed new school will add significant additional capacity to the network and will assist in accommodating the projected roll growth at local schools from the planned housing developments in the area.
- 6 On 29 August 2021 you agreed to consult on the proposed establishment of the school [METIS 1266863 refers]. Consultation with schools whose rolls might be affected by the proposed school has been undertaken. Due to the recent COVID restrictions the consultation period was extended by four weeks to enable schools to have more time to consider the proposed establishment. In response to our consultation, three responses were received, all in favour of the establishment of the school.
- 7 Should you agree to the establishment, the Establishment Board for Massey Redhills Primary School will be supported by a governance facilitator and will be part of the Tārai Kura initiative that will support the board to make links with local mana whenua. Tārai Kura will also assist the board to think more broadly about how school property design can best support the contexts in which local identity and culture can form the basis of a strong and relevant curriculum.
- 8 The timeframe for the establishment and opening of the proposed new school on the Trig Road site is tight. There is a possibility that despite an expedited process that the new Massey Redhills Primary School may not be ready to open at Trig Road at the start of 2023. If this occurs, we will advise you, and continue to establish the school so that is ready to open as soon as possible.
- 9 The Ministry recommends that you agree to establish the proposed new Year 1 - 8 primary school. Massey Redhills Primary School is planned to open for instruction at all year levels in 2023.

Recommended Actions

The Ministry of Education recommends that you:

- a. **note** that on 19 August 2021 you agreed to consult with the boards of all schools whose rolls might be affected by the establishment on the proposed new school, and that consultation is now complete;

Noted

- b. **note** that Massey Redhills Primary School will be situated on the Trig Road site until we have secured our preferred site;

Noted

- c. **agree** to establish a Year 1 - 8 full primary school under section 190 of the Education and Training Act 2020, to be named Massey Redhills Primary School;

Agree / Disagree

- d. **sign** the attached *New Zealand Gazette* notice establishing the school;

- e. **agree** to release the attached draft media release announcing your decision to establish Massey Redhills Primary School;

Agree

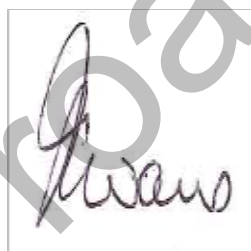
- f. **note** that if you agree to recommendation (b) above, the Ministry will exercise its delegation to appoint an Establishment Board for the school;

Noted

- g. **sign** the attached letters to local Members of Parliament advising your decision;

- h. **agree** to proactively release this Education Report as per your expectations that information be released as soon as possible. Any information that might need to be withheld will be done so in line with the provisions of the Official Information Act 1982.

Release / Not released



Isabel Evans
Hautū – Te Mahau, Te Tai Raro
Deputy Secretary - Te Mahau, Te Tai Raro

30 /11 /2021



Hon Chris Hipkins
Minister of Education

8 /12 /21

Background

- 1 The Massey Redhills area is located in the Massey Hobsonville Kaipara catchment of the New Zealand Education Growth Plan (NEGP). This area has been identified as an area of significant future growth. Large scale Special Housing Areas will enable market led growth and infrastructure improvements in the Massey Redhills area and ongoing development. It is estimated that there will be approximately an additional 3,340 Year 1 – 8 primary aged students in this network by 2032.
- 2 In addition, the Auckland Future Urban Land Supply Strategy anticipates a dwelling capacity of 1,400 in Redhills North, that will generate approximately 440 primary aged students. This is expected to be development ready by 2028.
- 3 To cater for the long-term population projections, the NEGP identified that at least four new schools would be required within this catchment by 2030. The first of these schools is a new Year 1–8 primary school, Massey Redhills Primary School, proposed to be established to open in Term 1 2023.
- 4 Massey Primary School is currently at capacity. Neighbouring schools, Royal Road, West Harbour and Whenuapai School, are all near capacity and catering for large scale growth within their own enrolment scheme home zones.

The proposed school

- 5 It is proposed that the new school would open as a full primary school and be operational for Term 1 2023.
- 6 A preferred site for the school has been identified in the live-zoned Redhills precinct area west of Fred Taylor Drive. However, we have not yet secured acquisition of the site and as a result we will provide additional capacity for the new school at a site we own at Trig Road, Whenuapai. This site is approximately four kilometres away, an eight-minute drive from our preferred site.
- 7 The site at Trig Road is four hectares and was purchased in 2005 as a long-term acquisition. The site is vacant, and we have initiated the designation process with Auckland Council.
- 8 We anticipate that this temporary capacity at Trig Road site will be required for up to two years. The foundation learners of the Massey Redhills Primary School would start on the Trig Road site and would move to its permanent school site in North Massey when it is completed and ready for occupation.
- 9 The Trig Road location will enable us to meet the educational needs of primary students within this network. If the school is not established, it is likely that the growth in this catchment will be such that we will not be able to provide accommodation for primary aged students. We will work to ensure that the Establishment Board, once appointed, is supported to make connections to its local community and proposed permanent site.

Consultation

- 10 Under section 209 of the Education and Training Act 2020 (the Act) the Minister of Education is required to consult with the boards of all state schools whose rolls might be affected before establishing a new school. On 29 August 2021 you agreed to consult on the proposed establishment of the new school [METIS 1266863 refers].
- 11 This consultation has occurred and the timeframe for it was extended, at the request of schools, due to constraints and pressure of the recent Auckland COVID restrictions.
- 12 We have received three responses in favour of the proposed school from local schools: Lincoln Heights Primary School, Massey Primary School and Whenuapai School. No other feedback was received.

Financial implications

- 13 Funding for planning and design of the temporary provision at Trig Road has been allocated from Budget 2021. Additional funding for construction will be sought in a future Budget. Approval is also being sought from Cabinet for the purchase of the new permanent site. Planning, design and construction funding for the permanent site will be sought in future budgets.

Transport implications

- 14 The Trig Road site is an eight-minute drive from our preferred site for Massey Redhills Primary School. We are currently investigating transport options for students to enable them to access the Trig Road site from the Massey Redhills development area until the permanent site is built and ready for occupation.
- 15 Discussions are underway with Auckland Transport on the availability of public transport. If this is not a viable option, then the Ministry will put in a temporary service to transport students from a central point in the Massey Redhills development area to the Trig Road site. To ensure the safe operation of a transport service, bus facilities will need to be provided at the site prior to commencement.

Establishment Board

- 16 Every new school has an Establishment Board. The Establishment Board responsibilities include employment of the principal and staff in the school, setting the school's strategic direction in consultation with parents, staff and learners, and providing input into the new school design process.
- 17 The Establishment Board is normally appointed at least 18 months prior to the school opening with the Principal appointment made a year before the school is open. At the time of consultation for the school we also sought expressions of interest for members of the community to be appointed to the Establishment Board, and should your approval be given to establish the school, we would move to make appointments and have this board operational as soon as possible.

- 18 The process of appointing the Establishment Board has been delegated to the Ministry. Once nominations have been assessed against the criteria for appointment, appointments will be made under clause 3(1)(a)(i) of Schedule 22 of the Act.
- 19 The Ministry will also commence the appointment process for a governance facilitator to support the Establishment Board to become an effective governance body and to prepare the school for opening as an effective learning organisation. The Establishment Board will also work with us to develop an enrolment scheme for the new school.
- 20 The school will also be part of the Tārai Kura initiative. This supports kura, schools, tumuaki, staff, whānau, mana whenua, boards and communities to think broadly about how school property design can best support the school's context. It also allows the local identity and culture to form the basis of a strong and relevant curriculum.

Risks

- 21 The timeframe for the establishment and opening of the proposed new school on the Trig Road site is tight. There is a possibility that despite an expedited process that the new Massey Redhills Primary School may not be ready to open at Trig Road at the start of 2023.
- 22 There is a risk that the population growth projected for this area will occur more quickly than forecast and that the school will be fully utilised sooner. In this case a future build stage would need to be brought forward.
- 23 We will continue to monitor demographic growth in this area in order to respond to future residential developments and population growth.

Conclusion

- 24 We recommend establishment of Massey Redhills Primary School for the following reasons:
- Massey Redhills is an area of projected significant population growth as outlined in the NEGP
 - Existing schools in this part of the catchment do not have sufficient capacity to absorb projected growth, and sites will not allow sufficient development to do so
 - Population projections indicate that there is demand for additional student spaces
 - Establishment is supported or not opposed by local schools.

Next steps

- 25 If you approve this establishment, you are asked to sign the attached letters (Annex 1) and *New Zealand Gazette* notice (Annex 2).
- 26 An Establishment Board will be appointed, and a governance facilitator appointed to support the Establishment Board as it works to ready the school to open in 2023.
- 27 A draft media release is attached for your consideration (Annex 3).

Proactive Release

- 28 It is intended that this Education Report be proactively released in line with your expectation that information be released as soon as possible. Any information that might need to be withheld will be done so in line with the provisions of the Official Information Act 1982.

Annexes

- Annex 1: Letters local Members of Parliament
- Annex 2: Notice for the *New Zealand Gazette*
- Annex 3: Draft media release
- Annex 4: Area Map

Proactively Released

Hon Chris Hipkins

MP for Remutaka

Minister for COVID-19 Response

Minister of Education

Minister for the Public Service

Leader of the House



Chris Penk
MP Kaipara ki Mahurangi
Parliament Buildings
WELLINGTON

Ref: CH10982

Dear Mr Penk

I am pleased to inform you that I have recently established a new primary school to be located in Massey Redhills, Auckland.

The school will be named Massey Redhills Primary School and will be a full primary school (Year 1 – 8). The school is planned to open in January 2023.

A preferred site for the Massey Redhills Primary School has been identified west of Fred Taylor Drive. To cater for school aged population growth in the short term while the site is acquired and the school is built, the proposed new school will be temporarily located at 13 – 15 Trig Road, Whenuapai.

As you will be aware, Massey Redhills is an area of anticipated high growth with ongoing residential developments. The new school will provide for the anticipated increase in the primary-school-aged population.

The Ministry of Education will continue to monitor the capacity of all schools in the area to ensure that students continue to have access to quality education.

Yours sincerely

Chris Hipkins
Minister of Education

Hon Chris Hipkins

MP for Remutaka

Minister for COVID-19 Response

Minister of Education

Minister for the Public Service

Leader of the House



Hon Kelvin Davis
MP Te Tai Tokerau
Parliament Buildings
WELLINGTON

Ref: CH10983

Dear Kelvin

I am pleased to inform you that I have recently established a new primary school to be located in Massey Redhills, Auckland.

The school will be named Massey Redhills Primary School and will be a full primary school (Year 1 – 8). The school is planned to open in January 2023.

A preferred site for the Massey Redhills Primary School has been identified west of Fred Taylor Drive. To cater for school aged population growth in the short term while the site is acquired and the school is built, the proposed new school will be temporarily located at 13 – 15 Trig Road, Whenuapai.

As you will be aware, Massey Redhills is an area of anticipated high growth with ongoing residential developments. The new school will provide for the anticipated increase in the primary-school-aged population.

The Ministry of Education will continue to monitor the capacity of all schools in the area to ensure that students continue to have access to quality education.

Yours sincerely

Chris Hipkins
Minister of Education

Proactively Released

New School Establishment

Pursuant to Section 190 of the Education and Training Act 2020, I hereby establish a Year 1 - 8 full primary school, to be known as **Massey Redhills Primary School**, in Massey, Auckland.

Dated at Wellington this 8th day of December 2021



Hon Chris Hipkins
Minister of Education

Annex 4: Map

