



19 OCT 2017

[REDACTED]
General Reporter
Fairfax Media
[REDACTED]

Dear Ms [REDACTED]

Thank you for your email of 12 September 2017 to the Ministry of Education requesting the following information:

How much money has each school within South Canterbury - Timaru, Mackenzie and Waimate districts, received in donations each year, for the previous five years?

Your request has been considered under the Official Information Act 1982. I apologise for the delay in responding to your request.

School donations come from a range of sources including businesses, community groups, alumni and parents. If a school requests a donation from parents, the payment is voluntary and may be paid in full, in part, or not at all. Boards of Trustees cannot enforce payment of donations and they must not be described as *fees, charges, or levies*. The amount requested in donations varies from school to school.

On average, donations contribute 1.8% of the total revenue that schools receive each year. Further information about school donations can be found on our website at: www.education.govt.nz/school/running-a-school/school-finance/accounting-for-donations-fundraising-and-other-income/.

Appendix A shows the schools in the South Canterbury area and the total donations received in each calendar year. Schools are listed by their institution number. Where a cell is left blank the school was either not open or we have not received audited accounts for the year.

Please note, the donations figures we have provided in **Appendix A** may differ from other publicly available records or information requests. This is because we are constantly updating our records as schools submit their audited financial accounts. The data we have provided in this response was extracted on 19 September 2017.

School level donations data is not held on the Education Counts website. A summary of schools' donations for 2015 is available in the *New Zealand Schools: Ngā Kura o Aotearoa (2015)* report. This can be found at: www.educationcounts.govt.nz/publications/schooling/2523/new-zealand-schools-nga-kura-o-aotearoa-2015. The 2016 report will also be published on Education Counts once it is finalised later this year.

Should you have any further queries, please contact the Ministry's Media Team at Media@education.govt.nz.

Thank you again for your email. You have the right to ask an Ombudsman to review this decision. You can do this by writing to info@ombudsman.parliament.nz or Office of the Ombudsman, PO Box 10152, Wellington 6143.

Yours sincerely

A handwritten signature in blue ink, consisting of a stylized 'CJ' followed by a horizontal line.

Dr Craig Jones
Deputy Secretary
Evidence, Data and Knowledge