
Before completing this form, contact your local Ministry office so we can explain what the application process involves.

This application must be completed by a person involved in the governance of the proposed service.

This application will incur a non-refundable application fee of \$2,817.50 inclusive of GST.

Section 10 of the Education and Training Act 2020 defines home-based education and care service as:

(a) The provision of education or care, for gain or reward, to children who are under the age of 5 years, or who are aged 5 years but not enrolled in school, in –

- (i) the children's own home; or*
- (ii) the home of the person providing the education or care; or*
- (iii) any other home nominated by a parent of the children; and*

(b) includes the provision of education or care to any child of the person providing the service who is—

- (i) under the age of 5 years; or*
- (ii) 5 years of age but not enrolled in school*

Section 19 of the Education and Training Act 2020 details the requirements for licensed home-based education and care service as:

(a) While children are participating in the service, the total number of children present in the home in which the service is provided (including those receiving the service) must not be more than 6.

(b) children means children aged 13 years or younger (other than children of the educator who are enrolled in school)

Only home-based services that meet all of the above may submit an application for a licence.

The Education and Training Act 2020 introduced a two-step approval and licensing process for early learning services.

This means that from **1 February 2023**, applicants seeking a licence to operate a new Early Childhood Education Home-based and Care Service must first apply to the Minister of Education for approval before they can apply for a licence unless they are an excluded service.

The following Māori immersion services are excluded from the requirement to seek network management approval:

- ❖ A Kōhanga Reo chartered to Te Kōhanga Reo National Trust
- ❖ A standalone early childhood service teaching its curriculum through Te Reo Māori at or close to full immersion to develop high levels of Māori language proficiency and use, or
- ❖ Māori immersion early childhood services that propose to teach in Te Reo Māori for the majority of the time and are affiliated to a gazetted peak body, or
- ❖ Māori immersion early childhood services that propose to teach in Te Reo Māori for the majority of the time and will be provided by or associated with a gazetted iwi or Māori organisation

1. Service Provider Details

Please provide details of the legal status, address and contact information for the service provider.

Service Provider Name <i>This is the name of the body, agency or person who provides, or offers to provide a home-based education and care service.</i>													
New Zealand Business Number (NZBN) <i>The Companies Office administers the NZBN register which is responsible for the allocation of the NZBN for New Zealand businesses.</i>	9	4											
Ownership Type <i>Tick one only</i>	Owned Privately												
<input type="radio"/>	Sole Trader*				<input type="radio"/> Company				<input type="radio"/> Partnership				
Owned by an Incorporated Society													
<input type="radio"/>	An Incorporated Society (<i>under the Incorporated Societies Act</i>)												
Owned by a Trust													
<input type="radio"/>	Charitable Trust (<i>under the Charitable Trusts Act</i>)				<input type="radio"/> Statutory Trust (<i>e.g. a trust under the Anglican Church Trusts Act 1981</i>)				<input type="radio"/> Private Trust (<i>includes trusts declared to be charitable for tax purposes</i>)				
Owned by a Community Organisation													
<input type="radio"/>	Community Trust				<input type="radio"/> State Owned Enterprise				<input type="radio"/> City Council				
<input type="radio"/>	Government Department				<input type="radio"/> Health Board				<input type="radio"/> Public Education Institution (<i>e.g. polytechnic, college of education, university, wananga</i>)				
<input type="radio"/>	Other (please specify) _____												
Sole Trader Declaration <i>(This declaration is only applicable to applicants operating as Sole Traders)</i> <i>Please see section 10, note 3 for more information.</i>	<p>Sole Trader consent is required under section 548A(1)(b) of the Education and Training Act 2020, for the Ministry of Education (authorised under Part 5 of the Data and Statistics Act 2022) to disclose data held in Statistics New Zealand Integrated Data Infrastructure related to your service.</p> <p>This consent only applies to data disclosed at the level of an early childhood service and will solely be used for the purposes of developing or using tools relating to the provision of funding to early childhood services, i.e., an equity index, as provided for in section 548A(1) of the Education and Training Act 2020.</p> <p>The privacy of the children and families is protected, as data in the IDI is governed by robust confidentiality rules and is de-identified.</p> <p>You may withdraw your consent at any time by notifying the Ministry in writing.</p> <p><input type="radio"/> I authorise consent <input type="radio"/> I do not authorise consent</p> <p>Signature <input type="text" value="X"/> Date <input type="text" value="X"/></p>												
Service Provider Address <i>These addresses relate to the service provider. This may be different from the service's addresses.</i>	Street Address												
Suburb / District													
Town / City							Postcode						

<i>If different from Street Address</i>	Phone Number	Mobile Number	
	Email	<input type="checkbox"/>	Tick if this email can be made publicly available.
	Website		
	Postal Address		
	Suburb / District		
	Town / City	Postcode	
	Special Delivery Instructions		

Applicant Details

<i>A person must be listed for the purposes of this application. This person must be from the service provider and is the person who must complete this application, including the Application Declaration in section 7 and if applicable, the Statutory Declaration in section 8.</i>	First Name	Middle Names	
	Family Name		
	Phone Number	Mobile Number	
	Email	<input type="checkbox"/>	Tick if this email can be made publicly available.

Funding Details

Funding Contact Details <i>This person will receive financial forms (eg RS7) from the Ministry of Education and be the contact for funding matters.</i>	First Name	Middle Names	
	Family Name		
	Phone Number	Mobile Number	
	Email	<input type="checkbox"/>	Tick if this email can be made publicly available.

2. Service Details

These are details of the service for which the application is being made.

Service Name			
Service Provider Contact Person Details <i>This is the person nominated by the service provider to represent it and whose name will appear on the certificate of licence.</i> <i>Please see section 10, note 1 for more information about the service provider contact person requirements.</i>	First Name	Middle Names	
	Family Name		
	Address		
	Suburb / District		
	Town / City	Postcode	

	Special Delivery Instructions			
	Phone Number		Mobile Number	
	Email		<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	Tick if this email can be made publicly available.

As the proposed service provider contact person, I confirm that I meet and will continue to meet the requirements of a service provider contact person as detailed in Section 10, note 1.

Signature

X

3. Nomination of Emergency Contact

This is the person that the Ministry will contact in an emergency.

Emergency Contact Person	First Name		Middle Names			
	Family Name					
	Phone Number			Mobile Number		
	Email					

4. Operating Details

The operating details provided below will inform the conditions under which the service will be authorised to operate, and which will be listed on the certificate of licence.

	Monday		Tuesday		Wednesday		Thursday		Friday		Saturday		Sunday	
	Start	End	Start	End	Start	End	Start	End	Start	End	Start	End	Start	End
Times														
Max # child places														
Max # child places aged under two years														

Note:
The requirements of the person responsible must be met over the hours of operation whenever children are in attendance.

Please indicate if this application is for a standard funded licence or a quality funded licence. If this is for quality funded licence, please also complete and submit with this form an EC11HB.

<input type="checkbox"/>	Standard funding rate
<input type="checkbox"/>	Quality funding rate

Refer to Qualification requirements (Home-based Education and care services) Reg 44(a) Schedule 1A

5. Early Learning Information (ELI) System

ELI Email <i>This is the email address that the Ministry of Education will use to contact the service for ELI related matters.</i>	Email
Yes / No Please Circle	As the service provider, I am aware of the Early Learning Information (ELI) System and the information requirements.
Yes / No Please Circle	As the service provider, I have selected a method to connect to the Early Learning Information (ELI) System.
If 'Yes'	<input type="radio"/> ELI Web, or
	<input type="radio"/> Student Management System. Indicate SMS below.

6. He Pānui Kōhungahunga – the Early Learning Bulletin

The Ministry publishes a bulletin which is emailed to all service providers. The bulletin is the Ministry's way of communicating important information, changes and events happening in the early learning community.

Ensure that you read and engage with information in the bulletin to stay up to date and remain compliant.

If you would like the bulletin emailed to others within the service, please add their information through the bulletin sign up page:

[Early Learning Bulletin \(list-manage.com\)](http://list-manage.com)

7. Application declaration

To be completed by the applicant.

I am applying under the Education (Early Childhood services) Regulations 2008 for a new home-based licence.

I confirm that to the best of my knowledge the information contained in this application is correct and accurate.

Applicant name	
Applicant signature	Date

8. Statutory Declaration by Service Provider

- This statutory declaration must be completed and signed by the applicant identified in Section 1 in front of the authorised person under Section 9 of the *Oaths and Declarations Act 1957*.
- Service providers that own or operate more than one service may wish to photocopy this part of the form once completed. Please note that the statutory declaration should be no older than 3 months if you intend to use it for subsequent licence applications.
- **For more information about the statutory declaration, see section 10, note 2.** This also tells you what you must do if any circumstance arises which might make this statutory declaration incorrect.

STATUTORY DECLARATION

(First Schedule, Oaths and Declarations Act 1957)

TO ACCOMPANY APPLICATIONS FOR LICENCES TO OPERATE EARLY CHILDHOOD HOME-BASED EDUCATION AND CARE SERVICES

I _____ of _____
(insert name of applicant) (insert address)

acting on behalf of _____
(insert name of service provider)

("the service provider") understand that:

1. The following information is required for the purpose of enabling the Ministry of Education to determine whether members of the service provider, including the applicant, are suitable to be involved in the governance of the proposed service.
2. This information is required pursuant to regulations 6(3)(b) of the *Education (Early Childhood Services) Regulations 2008*.
3. I must complete this application **on behalf of myself and each person to be involved in the governance of the proposed service.** See Section 10, note 2 for clarification.
4. It is an offence under section 111 of the Crimes Act 1961 to make a false declaration where that declaration would amount to perjury if made on oath in a judicial proceeding.
5. Where I have answered in the affirmative to any statement below, I have attached all the relevant details in relation to the matter.

To complete this declaration – you must tick one of the options at the beginning of EACH of the following statements.

I SOLEMNLY DECLARE THAT TO THE BEST OF MY KNOWLEDGE:

I, and each person who is involved in the governance of the proposed service

a	<input type="radio"/> have <input type="radio"/> do not have	any previous conviction for any offence
b	<input type="radio"/> have <input type="radio"/> do not have	any involvement in, or association with, an organisation that has been convicted of an offence
c	<input type="radio"/> have <input type="radio"/> do not have	any history of health conditions that may affect the individual's ability to comply with the <i>Education and Training Act 2020</i> (the Act), the <i>Education (Early Childhood Services) Regulations 2008</i> , and any regulations made under section 636 of the Act

d	<input type="radio"/> have <input type="radio"/> do not have	any property order or personal order under the <i>Protection of Personal and Property Rights Act 1988</i> to which the person is, or has been, subject
e	<input type="radio"/> have <input type="radio"/> do not have	any sum of money owed, or previously owed, to the Crown, including in respect of bodies that the individual has been involved in managing
f	<input type="radio"/> have <input type="radio"/> do not have	any adjudication of bankruptcy under the <i>Insolvency Act 2006</i> or the <i>Insolvency Act 1967</i>
g	<input type="radio"/> have <input type="radio"/> do not have	any prohibition on being a director or promoter of, or being concerned or taking part in the management of,— (i) a company under the <i>Companies Act 1993</i> ; or (ii) any other body corporate
h	<input type="radio"/> have <input type="radio"/> do not have	any current or previous role as a governing member of an entity or organisation that became insolvent, including being placed in liquidation, receivership, or voluntary administration
i	<input type="radio"/> have <input type="radio"/> do not have	any prohibition against acting as an employer or an officer of an employer under the <i>Employment Relations Act 2000</i> to which the individual is, or has been, subject
j	<input type="radio"/> have <input type="radio"/> do not have	any previous involvement in an early childhood service in respect of which— (i) an application for a licence was refused; or (ii) a licence was suspended or cancelled
k	<input type="radio"/> have <input type="radio"/> do not have	previous registration with the Teaching Council of Aotearoa New Zealand, and that registration was cancelled for any reason
l	<input type="radio"/> can confirm <input type="radio"/> cannot confirm	that all of the educators in the service receive gain or reward for their work as an educator.

And I make this solemn declaration conscientiously believing the same to be true and by virtue of the *Oaths and Declarations Act 1957*

Do not complete the following section until you are in front of the authorised person witnessing your declaration. After the declaration is made and signed, there must not be any alterations. (Refer to Section 10, note 2)

Signature of Applicant _____

Declared at _____ this _____ day of _____.
(insert town or city) (insert day, e.g. 21st) (insert month and year)

Before _____ **(Signature of person taking declaration)**
(Justice of the Peace or other person authorised to take a Statutory Declaration)

_____ **(Full name of person taking declaration)**

_____ **(Capacity, e.g. Barrister, Justice of the Peace)**

***Service provider** means in relation to a home-based education and care service, the body, agency, or person who provides, or offers to provide, that education or care.

PRIVACY STATEMENT

The personal information collected from you in relation to this statutory declaration is required by the Ministry of Education for the purpose of assessing your licence application in accordance with the requirements set out under regulations 6 and 7 of the *Education (Early Childhood Services) Regulations 2008*. This information will not be disclosed to any other person or agency unless it is authorised or required by law.

If there is information requested on this form that you do not want to provide, discuss your concerns with an appropriate Ministry of Education officer who can explain the consequences of not providing it.

The information provided will be held by the Ministry of Education office that manages your application and you have the right under the *Privacy Act 2020* to request access to and correction of this information.

9. Documentation Checklist

The following documentation is required to be submitted with your application to the regional office of the Ministry of Education for consideration. Regulation numbers refer to the *Education (Early Childhood Services) Regulations 2008* unless otherwise noted.

General requirements

- 1) Copy of the Notice of Network Approval or evidence to demonstrate your eligibility as an excluded service.
 - 2) A list of names and roles of all persons to be involved in the governance of the service. *Reg.6(3)(b)*
 - 3) Copy of Police vet (less than 3 years old) for any person involved in the governance of the service:
 - who is not listed as having been assessed as fit and proper on the Notice of Network Approval; or
 - who has a previous conviction to declare. *Reg.8(a)*
- Note:* A new Police vet may be required after assessment of this application in some cases (e.g. if the Ministry needs to further verify a declaration to be true).
- 4) Certificate of Incorporation as a company, charitable trust or incorporated society if applicable.
 - 5) IRD notification of charitable tax status if applicable.
 - 6) Certified copies of recognised teaching qualifications and practising certificates for all persons responsible (coordinators). *Reg.6(3)(a) Schedule 1*
 - 7) Evidence of sufficient person/s responsible at the 1:50 ratio (i.e. one person responsible for every 50 children) to cover all proposed hours of operation and maximum child places (Additional person/s responsible may be needed depending on the hours of operation to cover breaks, shifts etc). *Reg.44 (1)*
 - 8) Evidence that the person/s responsible will be immediately available by phone and able to attend a home in person as soon as practical based on a risk assessment of the situation (no longer than 24 hours). *Reg.44 (1)*
 - 9) Evidence of how educators will be proactively informed of who their person responsible is and how to contact them, in advance of children attending, including how educators will be proactively informed if their person responsible is unavailable e.g. sick or on leave. *Reg.44 (1)*
 - 10) A list of educators and their home-based service qualifications. Also certified copies of required qualifications for all qualified Educators. *Reg.28(1)(e)*
 - 11) Evidence that demonstrates the percentage-based qualification requirements in Schedule 1A will be met. *Reg.44 (3A)*
 - 12) Copy of a list showing the addresses of each of the premises to be used for the provision of the home-based service. Identify with an asterisk, any homes that are also being used by another service provider. *Reg.10*
 - 13) Copy of the service provider's procedure for safety checking before employment or engagement of all persons who have access to children in accordance with the Children's Act 2014. Also provide copies of completed safety checking records and results for all children's workers. *Criterion GMA6A*

Note: If the service provider engages a children's worker who has lived overseas, it is recommended that there is a process to obtain a copy of a police certificate from the person's country of citizenship and from any country in which they have lived for one or more years within the last ten years in addition to a New Zealand Police vet.

- 14) Copy of the service provider's procedure to obtain a New Zealand Police vet and conduct a risk assessment of information returned in the vet for every adult aged 17 years or over who lives in a home where the service is being provided, and where at least 1 child to whom the service is being provided does not live in the home. Also, copies of all Police vets and their results for every adult aged 17 years old or over. *Education and Training Act 2020 Schedule 4*
Risk assessment guidelines: <https://www.education.govt.nz/early-childhood/licensing-and-regulations/police-vetting-for-early-learning-services/#risk-assessment>
- 15) Evidence that the service provider contact person resides locally e.g., copy of a utility bill, tenancy agreement *Reg.3 (See Section 10, Note 1)*

Plans, policies, and procedures - provide copies of the following:

- 16) Copy of the service's annual plan identifying the key tasks that the service intends to undertake each year. The annual plan must be detailed enough to cover day to day events, staff appraisals, planned strategic opportunities, including self-review or internal evaluation and how these tasks will align with the Statement of National Education and Learning Priorities (NELP). *Criterion GMA7*
- 17) A process for providing positive guidance to encourage social competence in children. *Criterion C10*
- 18) A process for providing formal and informal opportunities for parents to:
 - communicate with educators and coordinators about their child, and share specific evidence of the child's learning;
 - be involved in decision-making concerning their child's learning. *Criterion C12*
- 19) A written emergency plan and supplies to ensure the care and safety of children and the educator at the home and when away from home. The plan must include evacuation procedures that apply in a variety of emergency situations and that are relevant to each home in the service as provided under Reg. 10. The emergency plan must also include out-of-school care children if out-of-school care is being provided in any of the homes. *Criterion HS4*
- 20) A written child protection policy that meets the requirements of the Children's Act 2014. The policy contains provisions for the identification and reporting of child abuse and neglect, information about how the service will keep children safe from abuse and neglect, and how it will respond to suspected child abuse and neglect. *Criterion HS28*
- 21) Written information letting parents know how they can be involved in the service; any fees charged by the service; the amount and details of the expenditure of any Ministry of Education funding received by the service; about any planned reviews and consultation; a written statement about how parents will be advised if the home their child is attending will have children receiving out-of-school care and how written parental acknowledgment will be gathered. *Criterion GMA2*
- 22) A written statement expressing the service's beliefs, values, and attitudes about the provision of early childhood education and care. *Criterion GMA4*
Please note: this statement must reflect the documentation provided as part of your network approval process including any special characteristics
- 23) A copy of the enrolment form that will be used by the service. *Criterion GMA9*
- 24) Provide copies of individual supervision plans for each of the premises used in connection with the service: The supervision plan must be specific to each home in the service (as provided under Reg.10) and must ensure that the good health and safety of the children enrolled in the service is maintained at all times. This plan must be able to be adapted to the number, age, abilities, and enrolled hours of the children attending and must show how the educator will actively supervise children attending each home in the service. *Criterion HS34*

Fees and Funding Forms

- 25) A completed RS3 funding form. *Note:* home-based services are automatically placed on standard level funding, if you wish to change to quality level funding also complete an EC11HB funding form.
- 26) Evidence that the application fee of \$2,817.50, inclusive of GST, has been paid. Payment to Westpac Bank account number: 030049 0004125 00. Please use your proposed service's name and your local Ministry office as a reference.

To be completed by Ministry of Education officers *only*

Date	<input type="radio"/> Complete	<input type="radio"/> Incomplete
Service Provider Details		
Service Provider Number (ECA number)	Licence number	
Effective Date (<i>This is the day service will open</i>)	<input type="radio"/> Granted	<input type="radio"/> Declined

10. Information to Assist Applicants

Note 1: Nominating a Service Provider Contact Person

The Education (Early Childhood Services) Regulations 2008 require a contact person to be nominated for each service for which a licence is sought, and this person's name is displayed on the certificate of licence. The service provider is legally responsible for meeting regulatory requirements, not the contact person. However, the contact person must:

- represent the service provider;
- be able to respond to the Ministry of Education as soon as practicable on any issue relating to licensing;
- have the authority to act on behalf of the service provider; and
- reside locally.

In relation to the last bullet point, a person will generally be considered to 'reside locally' if they live within the geographical boundaries serviced by the local Ministry of Education office. Contact your local Ministry of Education office to discuss further if you are unsure whether the contact person would meet this requirement.

Note 2: Completing Section 8 (Statutory Declaration)

Who can I get to sign my statutory declaration?

- Section 9 of the Oaths and Declarations Act 1957 lists those who are authorised to take a statutory declaration.
- It is your responsibility to ensure that the person you select is authorised to witness your declaration.
- You will need to sign the statutory declaration **in front of the authorised person** you have chosen. Please be aware that after the declaration is made and signed, there must not be any alterations.
- You should check that the person notes on the form, with their signature, their full name and the capacity under which they are signing the declaration, eg Justice of the Peace, barrister of the High Court.

Who does the statutory declaration have to cover?

When the **governance of the proposed service is made up of a group of people**, the statutory declaration needs to cover the officers of the organisation that has identified itself as the service provider. In most cases, the deed of incorporation for the legal entity will determine this. The following table outlines the most common scenarios for service providers.

If the service provider is...	Then the statutory declaration should cover ...
An incorporated society	the office holders (such as Secretary, Treasurer and President)
A trust board	the board members
A company	the company director(s)
An individual person (whether registered as a legal entity or not)	only that person
An unincorporated body	the people that identify themselves as being part of the governing body

Is there any other matter that needs to be declared to the Secretary?

Regulation 7 of the Education (Early Childhood Services) Regulations 2008 enables the Secretary to require a statutory declaration for any other matter considered relevant. As per this regulation, the Secretary requires the applicant and those involved in the governance of the service to declare:

- whether any governance members were previously registered with the Teaching Council of Aotearoa New Zealand, and that registration was cancelled for any reason; and
- whether they confirm all educators in the service will receive gain or reward for their work as an educator.

How do I get the information I need from the people covered by the statutory declaration?

As the person signing the statutory declaration, you must satisfy yourself that the information supplied is correct. How you collect this information from the other people covered by the statutory declaration is up to you and your organisation. There is a range of ways that this might be done, including:

Information gathered through your recruitment or election processes	Personal knowledge of the person
Verbal assurances	Written attestation
Seeking Police vets in relation to past convictions	Individual statutory declarations from each person covered (so that the statutory declaration to the Ministry of Education becomes a composite of individual declarations to the applicant)

How do I decide how to respond to the statements on the statutory declaration?

- You must tick one of the options at the beginning of each statement.
- If the service provider is a group of people and an affirmative answer applies to one or more people you must answer in the affirmative on the statutory declaration.
- Most of the statements are relatively straightforward – people will know whether or not they have any convictions, adjudications of bankruptcy etc.
- The main exception will be statement (c) regarding health conditions. It is important to be clear about the difference between (1) a mental/physical condition that might prevent people from managing their role in complying with the conditions of a licence or obligations under the regulations and (2) any other condition that would not have this kind of impact. Relevant factors to consider might include, for example, health problems that require frequent hospitalisation or sick leave, or that might render a person unconscious or quickly incapacitated. Frequency and severity of those conditions might also be relevant.

What will the Ministry of Education do if I answer in the affirmative (i.e. 'have') to any of the statements on the statutory declaration?

If you answer in the affirmative, you must attach all relevant information in relation to the matter. Answering in the affirmative to any statement does not automatically exclude the service provider from being deemed fit and proper to hold a licence. Given the range of unique circumstances that may be identified, all decisions about whether or not to grant a licence are made on a case-by-case basis at the Secretary's discretion.

What will the Ministry of Education do if I answer in the negative (i.e. 'cannot confirm') in statement (I) on the statutory declaration?

If you answer in the negative in statement (I), this excludes the service provider from holding a licence as the service provider does not meet the definition of a home-based service under the Education and Training Act 2020.

What do I need to do if something changes – new people become part of the service provider, or people's circumstances change that make the statutory declaration incorrect?

Regulation 35 of the Education (Early Childhood Services) Regulations 2008 requires that a service provider must notify the Ministry of Education as soon as practicable if any of the circumstances under (a) to (I) on the statutory declaration form have changed for any person who is covered by the statutory declaration. You do not need to notify the Ministry of Education every time someone new becomes part of the service provider UNLESS that person's circumstances make the information you have provided on the statutory declaration incorrect. Verbal or written advice of a change of circumstances will be accepted and a new statutory declaration will not be required.

The Ministry of Education will then review the new information and decide whether the service provider continues to be fit and proper to hold a licence. Given the range of unique circumstances that may be identified, all decisions are made on a case-by-case basis at the Secretary's discretion.

Important: If you intend to use the statutory declaration in subsequent licence applications for other services you may own or operate, the statutory declaration **should be no older than 3 months** in order to be accepted.

Note 3: Sole Trader Declaration

When the Data and Statistics Act 2022 came into force, the Ministry was no longer able to calculate and then release the equity index number from the IDI for non-public organisations to input into the funding calculations. In late August 2023, Parliament passed a change to the Education and Training Act 2020 that allows the Ministry to release this data. The term used in the legislation for releasing the equity index data is disclose.

For sole traders the equity index number is considered personal information, as it is information about an identifiable person (the sole trader). Therefore, the legislation requires the Ministry to obtain consent from sole traders to disclose the equity index number relating to the services they operate.

The information (i.e., your service's equity index number) we seek to release does not contain other personal information and is calculated based on the children attending your service at a service level. The privacy of the children and families using services is protected, as data in the Integrated Data Infrastructure is governed by robust confidentiality rules and is de-identified.

The legislation also authorises the Ministry to publish the equity index number for each service, which the Ministry does for the school's equity index. While we intend to provide each service with their number once calculated, decisions have yet to be made on publishing equity index numbers. Should the Ministry decide to publish equity index numbers, we will seek your permission separately.

In the event you do not agree to the index being released or withdraw your consent in the future, the Ministry will develop a bespoke equity index number for your service. This number may not accurately reflect the current circumstances of the children attending your service, which may affect your service's entitlement to equity funding.

Your consent will remain valid for the duration of your licence to operate your early childhood service. Should there be a change in ownership of your service to someone who intends to operate as a sole trader, the Ministry will seek a separate consent from the new owner when they apply for their licence.