



## Briefing Note: Progress in implementing all Vote Education initiatives funded by the COVID-19 Response and Recovery Fund

<b>To:</b>	Hon Chris Hipkins, Minister of Education Hon Grant Robertson, Minister of Finance		
<b>Date:</b>	7 December 2020	<b>Priority:</b>	Medium
<b>Security Level:</b>	In Confidence	<b>METIS No:</b>	1244473
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<b>Messaging seen by Communications team:</b>	Yes / No	<b>Round Robin:</b>	No

### Purpose of Report

The purpose of this paper is to report on the Ministry of Education's progress in implementing all Vote Education initiatives funded by the COVID-19 Response and Recovery Fund (CRRF).

**Note** that the Ministry of Education is required to report on the Ministry's progress in implementing all Vote Education initiatives funded by CRRF to the Ministers of Finance and Education by 30 November 2020 [CAB-20-MIN-0219.09 refers], with an extension granted to 7 December 2020.

**Agree** that this Briefing **not** be proactively released due to budget sensitivities.

**Agree** Disagree

### Summary

This paper provides an overview of the status of the Vote Education initiatives funded through the CRRF and the progress these initiatives have made in the six months since the funding was delivered.

The Ministry of Education was allocated \$1.871 billion for OpEx and CapEx under Vote Education in three tranches to respond to and support the long-term recovery from COVID-19:

- Urgent CRRF funding, valued at \$117.4 million
- CRRF Foundation Package [CAB-20-MIN-0219.09 refers], valued at \$1.5 billion
- CRRF July Package [CAB-20-MIN-0328.09 refers], valued at \$254.0 million.

These tranches have funded 27 unique initiatives, many of which are comprised of multiple work programmes that deliver targeted supports to teachers, whānau and learners in the education sector. The CRRF has been used to address the COVID-19 crisis by maintaining education services, supporting suppliers and urgently responding to regional and local needs.

Progress and funding updates for each initiative are outlined in Annex 1. Underspends have been returned where programmes have not required the full appropriation. Programmes that anticipate future underspends will return funding when possible.

Progress on implementing initiatives that received funding under Vote Tertiary Education, or other funds that support the Vote Tertiary Education portfolio, are not included in this paper, as they are outside the scope of the request.



Emily Fabling  
**Deputy Secretary**  
Strategy, Planning and Governance

07/12/2020



Hon Chris Hipkins  
**Minister of Education**

15/12/2020

Hon Grant Robertson  
**Minister of Finance**

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## Ministry of Education CRRF background

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1. The \$50 billion CRRF, announced 14 May 2020, was intended to support New Zealanders and the economy through the effects of COVID-19 and the global recession.
2. The Vote Education component (OpEx and CapEx) of the CRRF consists of three packages:
  - a. Urgent CRRF funding, valued at \$117.4 million
  - b. CRRF Foundation Package [CAB-20-MIN-0219.09 refers], valued at \$1.5 billion
  - c. CRRF July Package [CAB-20-MIN-0328.09 refers], valued at \$254.0 million.
3. The packages funded 27 unique initiatives, many of which are comprised of multiple work programmes that deliver targeted supports to teachers, whānau and learners in the education sector.
4. Updates on selected initiatives have been provided through the fortnightly Implementation Unit reporting process coordinated by the Treasury to monitor COVID-19 funded deliverables across agencies. The latest report, provided 5 October 2020, tracked 26 CRRF-funded Education initiatives. The Ministry understands that the Treasury will provide direction on future reporting in early 2021.
5. The Ministry worked with the Treasury to develop a “deep dive” on 11 Vote Education and Vote Tertiary initiatives in September 2020 to supplement the Implementation Unit reporting process [T2020/3041 refers]. The deep dive revealed that most initiatives are on track or mostly on track for delivery, with application-based initiatives at greater risk for delay. The Ministry responded to Treasury’s insights in the EWU on 10 September 2020.

## Progress in implementing initiatives

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6. This paper reports on the Ministry of Education’s progress on implementing 27 Vote Education initiatives that were funded by the CRRF in the six months since the funding was delivered.
7. Progress and funding updates for each initiative are outlined in Annex 1. Underspends have been returned where programmes have not required the full appropriation. Programmes that anticipate future underspends will return funding when possible.
8. Financial information noted in Annex 1 is based on the most accurate information available.
9. As agreed with Treasury, progress on implementing initiatives that received funding under Vote Tertiary Education, or other funds that support the Vote Tertiary Education portfolio, are not included in this paper as they are outside the scope of the request.

## Consultation with Treasury

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10. Education has provided Treasury with fortnightly Implementation Unit reporting and deep dives into CRRF expenditures as requested.

11. The Ministry has consulted the Treasury on the development of this advice and has shared assessments on the implementation progress for Vote Education initiatives.

### Next Steps

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12. The Minister of Finance has requested another update in early 2021.
13. The Ministry will continue to monitor CRRF funding as appropriate.

### Proactive Release

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14. It is recommended that this Briefing not be proactively released due to budget sensitivities.

Proactively Released



## Annex 1: CRRF initiatives

Initiative		Funding					Comments
Name	Description	Funding allocated (in \$000)	Period	Funding spent 2019-20 (in \$000)	Funding spent as of 31 October 2020 (in \$000)	Funding returned (for 2019/20 funding) (in \$000)	Progress and funding updates
1. International Education Strategic Recovery: Enable Providers to Deliver Education Offshore and Develop Quality Assurance	This initiative provides funding to develop quality assurance processes and frameworks to monitor off-shore delivery. This will enable tertiary education providers to deliver education offshore.	500 – over 1 year	2020/21		60		<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Released the strategic international education recovery plan, which ensures international students can return as soon as practicable.</li> <li>NZQA has recruited a resource and is recruiting two contractors.</li> <li>NZQA is forecasting significant spending from January 2021.</li> <li>NZQA is procuring research to inform the capability building products and activities to support the development of providers' delivery capability, which is due to be complete in February 2021. This will be followed by product development.</li> <li>NZQA is scoping the quality assurance and regulatory settings that strengthen educational outcomes to inform the stakeholder engagement scheduled in the first quarter, 2021.</li> <li>NZQA will provide a further progress report in March 2021.</li> </ul>
2. Transition Support for State and State-Integrated Schools that have Lost International Revenue as a Result of COVID-19	This initiative provides funding for schools to meet cost pressures arising from a sudden decrease in international student revenue due to COVID-19. It supports State and State-Integrated schools to transition to a lower income stream, minimising disruption for students and staff while continuing to meet existing expenses (mainly staff costs).	20,000 – over 1 year	2020/21		18,000		<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Distributed \$18 million to support State and State-Integrated schools that have lost international revenue in the October 2020 operational grant instalment. Four schools have received additional funding.</li> <li>Reserved \$2 million to allocate to schools that expected an increase of enrolled international students in 2020, and funding not allocated will be distributed in the January 2021 operational grant instalment.</li> <li>Will pay out remaining \$2 million in January 2021.</li> </ul>
3. Increasing Wellbeing and Mental Health Support to Learners and Education Workforce	This initiative will provide funding to increase the provision of wellbeing and mental health support to learners and the education workforce in response to COVID-19. Initiatives include: a pilot of guidance counselling in primary schools; an increase to the guidance staffing entitlement for schools and kura with over 200 secondary students; the establishment of an urgent response fund for early learning services, schools and kura; the embedding of quality teaching approaches to mental health, wellbeing and healthy relationships in schools, kura and early learning services; increased access to workplace assistance for educators; strengthening mental health services for tertiary students; and local responses to youth mental health and wellbeing.	176,584 – over 5 years	2019/20 - 2023/24	2,000	28,700		<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Undertaking initiatives that will take effect from the 2021 academic year and starting payments early next year.</li> </ul> <p><b>Urgent Response Fund (URF):</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Distributed over \$23 million, or 46% of the fund, as of 6 November 2020.</li> <li>Approved 2,394 applications supporting 274,170 learners, including more than 130,000 in Auckland.</li> <li>Low-decile schools and kura, and their ākonga, are accessing their share of the funding.</li> </ul> <p><b>Increasing Wellbeing and Mental Health Support in Education:</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Increased staffing entitlement for guidance counsellors in large secondary schools.</li> </ul>

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							<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Procuring community organisations to provide counselling services.</li> <li>• Co-designed a new Curriculum Lead (Wellbeing) role. Recruiting 38 positions to be in place by Term 2, 2021.</li> <li>• Launched a \$4.2 million counselling and support service for the Auckland education workforce in November 2020.</li> <li>• Creating a supporting Curriculum Service Hub for resources.</li> <li>• Launching a national online wellbeing hub, with \$1.5 million invested over three years, by the end of Term 4, 2020.</li> <li>• Planning a Māori medium wellbeing initiative.</li> <li>• Procuring a contract to evaluate the wellbeing package.</li> <li>• 9(2)(f)(iv) [REDACTED]</li> </ul>
4. Continuation of Support for the Casual Schooling Workforce Unable to Work Due to COVID-19	Provision to fund income support for contingent schooling workers who are unable to work or are restricted in their ability to work due to COVID-19 or Public Health Guidelines at Alert Level 3.	19,700 – over 2 years	2019/20 - 2020/21	19,300		400	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Will return underspend at the end of the fiscal year.</li> </ul>
5. Wage Support for School Hostel Employees Due to COVID-19	Provision to fund the school hostel employee wage support scheme.	9,905 – over 1 year	2019/20	2,563		7,342	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Returned underspend.</li> </ul>
6. 100% Qualified and Certificated Teachers	This initiative provides funding to reinstate a higher funding band for teacher-led, centre-based services (i.e. kindergartens and education and care centres) that employ a 100% qualified and certificated teaching workforce. This is expected to improve the quality and frequency of teacher-child interactions, and lead to better learning and developmental outcomes for children in services employing a 100% certificated workforce. COVID-19 is likely to lower demand for early learning services. This initiative maintains employment opportunities for qualified ECE teachers in an environment when fewer services are likely to be operating.	278,249 – over 4 years	2020/21 - 2023/24	-	-		<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Increased funding rates come into effect from 1 January 2021.</li> <li>• Will disburse funding when the programme comes into effect.</li> <li>• Eligibility for the new rates will be determined again in March 2021.</li> </ul>
7. Ongoing Resourcing Scheme	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Increasing Ongoing Resourcing Scheme Teacher Aide Hours</li> </ul> <p>This initiative delivers an increase in teacher aide hours for over 10,000 students in the Ongoing Resourcing Scheme (ORS). This initiative means schools with ORS students will receive increased funding to employ teacher aides for more hours to help with the transition back to school. Initially this will support high and very high needs students with physical distancing and hygiene practices, however it will also allow schools to respond to the individual needs of the student upon their return to school. Parents will</p>	144,122 – over 4 years	2020/21 - 2023/24		24,591		<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Announced \$31 million, allocated in two phases, for schools to employ additional teacher aide support for ORS students who need extra help on their return to school.</li> <li>• Distributed Phase 1 funding of \$18.6 million (60%) directly to schools with ORS-verified students in the October 2020 operational grant to provide an average increase of three teacher aide hours a week on an ongoing basis to the end of Term 4, 2020.</li> </ul>



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	experience greater wellbeing as a result of their children receiving the support they need to return to school safety.							<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Providing Phase 2 funding of \$12.4 million (40%) on an application basis for schools to support the COVID-19-related needs of students who are ORS-verified. Funding will be made available during Terms 1 and 2, 2021.</li> <li>• Received 97 applications for Phase 2 funding since an online plan template went live on 17 November 2020.</li> <li>• 10,000 ORS students will receive increased access to teacher aides to help with the transition back to school. Fundholder schools have received \$6 million additional funding in Terms 3 and 4, 2020 to support additional 3 hours. Non-fundholders ORS students are having hours moderated to provide the additional levels of support, increasing to 13.0 hours per week. ORS students with very high needs are increasing to 20.0 hours per week.</li> <li>• Allocating \$8.146 million in March 2021 for the Teacher Aide Pay Equity Claim element based on actual employed teacher aide hours.</li> </ul>
	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Ongoing Resourcing Scheme Cost Pressure for Teacher Aide Hours</li> </ul> <p>This initiative provides funding to address cost pressures arising from the urgent need for an increase in teacher aide hours for more than 10,000 high and very high needs students in the ORS. The level of student need and resulting demand for teacher aide hours has been higher over the past year than is currently funded, creating an ongoing baseline cost pressure. Funding this cost pressure for 2020/21 will ensure that the increased investment in teacher aide hours through COVID-19, intended to support the attendance, engagement and participation of ORS students at school, will not be eroded and the benefits fully realised. Funding for further years of this cost pressure will be subject to future Budget decisions.</p>	19,013 – over 1 year	2020/21	-				
8. Support for Schools Payroll	This initiative provides funding for Education Payroll Limited (EPL) to cover the additional costs and increased workload incurred as a result of COVID-19. This includes funding for temporary staff to clear the backlog of operations work and to cover the increase in costs regarding the delayed implementation of Education Payroll Development Programme (EPDP) and the new payroll user interface, EdPay.	1,960 – over 2 years	2019/20 – 2020/21	400	1,960			<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Provided \$1.9 million in operating funding to support EPL address their increased workload and delay of programme implementations.</li> <li>• EPL's temporary staff were extended for 3 months to September 2020.</li> <li>• Cleared the backlog of delayed payroll tickets.</li> <li>• Extended design and development staff to complete EdPay and EPL Development Programme change, design, and build work.</li> </ul>
9. Funding to Support Schools to Manage the Immediate Costs of COVID-19	This initiative will support state and state-integrated schools to manage the immediate financial pressures of COVID-19. This initiative provides funding for cleaning and sanitation costs, additional staff to support small schools, and relief teachers. This initiative also supports the school hostel workforce who have been adversely impacted by COVID-19.	38,334 – over 1 year	2020/21	-	21,379			<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Distributed funding to contribute towards cleaning and hand sanitiser costs to all State and State-Integrated schools based on the proportion of total students enrolled each school in the October 2020 operational grant instalment.</li> <li>• Distributed additional one-off funding to 508 small schools with U1 or U2 principals in the October 2020 operational grant instalment to allow teaching principals time to manage the COVID-19 response in Term 3, 2020.</li> <li>• Extended the Hostel Wage Subsidy Scheme for eight weeks to support schools if boarding students have not yet returned.</li> <li>• Lowered temporarily the threshold for seeking additional relief teacher funding for schools experiencing higher than planned levels of staff absences in Terms 2 and 3, 2020.</li> </ul>
10. Expansion of Creatives in Schools	This initiative seeks to expand the Creatives in Schools programme, in which professional artists and creative practitioners partner with schools and kura to share specialist artistic knowledge and creative practice. This is an expansion of an existing initiative, funded through Budget 2019, with the new funding enabling the Ministry of	4,000 – over 3 years	2020/21 – 2022/23	-	-			<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Panel met in November.</li> <li>• Will notify schools of funding disbursements in early December 2020.</li> <li>• Will pay the 2020/21 funding in the first half of 2021.</li> </ul>

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	Education to increase the total number of projects from 304 to 510 over the first four years of the programme.						
11. Enabling students to access online teaching and learning	Funding to provide 100,000 students with access to online teaching and learning as schools have temporarily closed as part of the emergency response to COVID-19.	36,400 – over 2 years	2019/20 – 2020/21	14,200	24,084		<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Provided approximately 36,700 devices to learners, meeting all demand for Years 9 and above.</li> <li>• Provided approximately 46,000 six-month internet connections for learner households.</li> <li>• Launched Home Learning TV   Papa Kāinga TV on TVNZ and Mauri Reo, Mauri Ora on Māori Television, which received 3.7 million views.</li> <li>• Prepared to reactivate Home Learning TV   Papa Kāinga TV and Mauri Reo, Mauri Ora within 48 hours and distribute a second tranche of 136,000 learning packs in case of further lockdown.</li> </ul>
12. Emergency Funding to Enable Distance Learning for Early Learning and Schooling	Provision of immediate funding to ensure students can access teaching and learning online as early learning services, schools and kura have temporarily closed as part of the emergency response to COVID-19.	51,340 – over 1 year	2019/20	39,755	48,146		<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Requested an in-principle transfer to 2020/21 of \$10.5 million that was approved on 15 August 2020 [METIS 1237093 refers].</li> <li>• Established emergency support payments for the casual schooling workforce who would have been left without income while schools were closed.</li> </ul>
13. Extension of the emergency payment for casual staff in schooling sector	Funding necessary to continue support for casual contingent State sector schooling works (those paid using timesheet and hired on an as needed basis such as day relief teachers and a range of non-teaching staff) who are unable to work due to COVID-19 under Alert Level 2.	4,751 – over 1 year	2019/20	4,751		-	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Re-established the scheme to support the casual schooling workers affected by Auckland moving to Alert Level 3 in August 2020.</li> <li>• Paid 3,500 employees \$4.6 million and staff \$0.07 million.</li> </ul>
14. Supporting At-Risk Ākonga to Re-Engage and Attend School during the COVID-19 Recovery	This initiative provides resources for one year to existing Attendance Services. This funding will support Attendance Services to work with schools to provide outreach to re-engage ākonga who have become disengaged from learning during the COVID-19 response and support their regular attendance. These ākonga are at higher risk of poor engagement in distance learning which increases the risk that they will either fail to re-engage and return to school and/or experience poor attendance once schools reopen. This initiative will prioritise ākonga in the primary years (Years 1 to 8).	2,867 – over 1 year	2020/21	-	2,575		<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Allocated all funding to providers via contracts that will be paid in 2020/21.</li> <li>• Planning to commit the remainder of funds to support at-risk ākonga in 2021.</li> </ul>
15. Technology Support for School Children with Learning Support Needs	This initiative will provide funding for school children with learning support needs to access devices or assistive technology to enable them to fully participate in learning, either at home or at school.	1,000 – over 1 year	2020/21	-	-		<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Redressed the inequitable access to assistive technology for ākonga with additional learning needs in response to needs arising under Alert Level 4 lockdown.</li> <li>• Will commence recruitment for the 2.4 FTEs in the new year. The focus will be on expanding the reach of the Assistive Technology Roadshow, providing it in te reo Māori, targeting kura kaupapa Māori and promoting the benefits of assistive technology for Māori ākonga.</li> <li>• Will be able to make applications for additional assistive technology in Terms 1 and 2, 2021.</li> <li>• Anticipating a full spend directly to students and ākonga in schools and kura in Terms 1 and 2, 2021.</li> </ul>



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16. Sustaining the Early Learning Network	• Additional Funding to Support Playcentres	Time-limited funding to support the viability of early learning services, subject to further work on the preferred allocation approach or approaches	4,200 – over 1 year	2020/21	-	3,700		<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Made a \$3.7 million one-off payment to Playcentre Aotearoa.</li> <li>Procuring \$0.5 million for condition assessments of the largely older, rural properties with deferred maintenance identified by Playcentre Aotearoa.</li> <li>Expect costs to be incurred between February and June 2021.</li> </ul>
	• Design of an Early Learning Sustainability Fund to Respond to COVID-19 Impacts		30,200 – over 1 year	2020/21	-	-		<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Launched on 14 September 2020.</li> <li>Received 30 applications. The low number of applications may be the result of ECE funding initiatives to support services, wider government support, and better than expected employment levels.</li> <li>Approved 3 applications totalling \$92,854. Assessing 16 applications.</li> <li>Anticipate second funding round between December 2020 and April 2021.</li> <li>Preparing advice to extend the contingency expiry until 30 June 2021.</li> <li>Providing a report to joint Ministers in December 2020 that will propose the consideration of the remaining \$171.6 million contingency as part of the Budget 2021 process.</li> </ul>
17. Targeted Support for at risk Learners   Ākonga	• Drawdown of operating contingency: target support for at-risk ākonga	This initiative makes provision for funding services for learners   ākonga who are disengaged or at risk of disengagement from their learning.	31,200 – over 3 years	2020/21 - 2022/23	-	-		<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Submitted a proposed funding appropriation to support seven initiatives that directly respond to COVID-19 for at-risk learners   ākonga who have high and complex needs on 9 September 2020.</li> <li>Received approval for the proposal by the Ministers of Finance, Education and Youth on 16 September 2020.</li> <li>Provided Treasury with detailed implementation plans and received their support for the proposals.</li> <li>Started payments in November 2020.</li> </ul>
	• Helping households stay connected to the internet		4,800 – over 1 year	2020/21	-	4,800		<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Extended the connection period for households set to expire between October and December 2020 through February 2021.</li> <li>Engaging with partners and the Telecommunications industry to develop a sustainable ongoing internet access solution for vulnerable households, which is expected to be complete in 12 months.</li> </ul>
18. Providing Digital Identity Required for Online Assessment and Learning		This initiative will provide funding to support the delivery and integrity of the rollout of NCEA Online. It ensures that schools' ageing network hardware is upgraded and cybersecurity protection is installed to tackle the increasing risk of phishing scams, data leaks, and exposure to harmful websites.	20,093 – over 4 years	2020/21 - 2023/24	-	-		<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Transferred funding to NZQA to implement this programme.</li> <li>Coming into effect from 1 January 2021.</li> </ul>
19. NCEA Online: Transforming Assessment for Learners		This initiative will provide funding to continue to implement digital National Certificate of Education Achievement (NCEA) examinations. Access to digital external examinations is a critical component of the response to	38,675 – over 4 years	2020/21 - 2023/24	-	3,580		<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Transferred funding to NZQA to implement this programme.</li> </ul>

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	COVID-19 and reflects today's expectations for digitally supported teaching and learning. Building on significant investments already made and progress so far, a flexible sector technology asset will enable digital assessment across all appropriate NCEA subjects and levels. It will support the further development of resilient operating models for assessment undertaken by the New Zealand Qualifications Authority, including supporting the implementation of the proposed NCEA changes.						
20. Early Intervention: Te Kōhanga Reo – Learning Support Initiative And Targeted COVID-19 Response	The Ministry of Education will partner with Te Kōhanga Reo National Trust (TKRNT) to co-design and co-deliver targeted strategies and support for the kōhanga whānau (kaiako, parents, whānau) to support tamariki with learning support needs to recover from COVID-19 and reduce the gap in access to learning support. With an emphasis on keeping kōhanga whānau connected during alert levels enabling a safe return of all tamariki and whānau to Kōhanga. Programmes that benefit Māori must reflect cultural ways of knowing and being. The combined expertise of the Trust (Te Ao Māori and Te Reo Māori) and the specialist knowledge of the Ministry will ensure that all communication, resources and approaches are built on Kaupapa Māori and meet the unique needs of their communities.	2,839 – over 4 years	2020/21 – 2023/24	-	-		<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Made payments in November 2020.</li> <li>9(2)(f)(iv) [REDACTED]</li> <li>Partnering with Te Kōhanga Reo National Trust to co-design and co-deliver targeted strategies and support for the kōhanga whānau to support tamariki with learning support needs and reduce the gap in access to learning support.</li> <li>Signed a three-year funding agreement in July 2020 to broker services and relationships that support Māori learners and their whānau learn in and through te reo Māori.</li> </ul>
21. Maintaining Kōhanga Reo Viability during the Post COVID-19 Rebuilding Phase	The initiative will provide funding to increase the funding rates for each Kōhanga Reo, and the annual funding provided to the Te Kōhanga Reo National Trust to support the Kōhanga Reo network. This includes specific funding to assist with assessment of Kōhanga Reo properties, and any resulting remedial and rehabilitation work. This initiative will improve the sustainability, capacity and capability of Kōhanga Reo, and will assist the revitalisation of te reo Māori, helping to integrate te reo Māori into the daily learning of every child and young person across early childhood, primary and intermediate levels by 2025.	99,956 – over 4 years	2020/21 – 2023/24	-	26,260		<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Valued property remediation work at \$21.2 million. The Trust held a series of hui with individual Kōhanga Reo to assess current needs. They are currently finalising their property programme and will seek Board's approval prior to drawing down on the funding.</li> <li>Provided the Trust with operational funding rate increases valued at \$65.1 million over four years. Paid \$4.1 million of this for operational funding between July and September 2020.</li> <li>The Trust will receive \$13.8 million, paid in instalments over the next 4 years, to support Kōhanga Reo network and enhance the capability and capacity of its people. Paid \$0.96 million for the first three instalments in October 2020.</li> </ul>
22. Supporting Māori Learners and Te Reo Māori Post COVID-19	<p>This initiative will support Māori learners and whānau to reconnect with education services following COVID-19 to ensure they access the full range of education and wellbeing services and achieve successful outcomes by engaging iwi and Māori organisations to provide facilitation and brokerage services.</p> <p>It will also strengthen the delivery of Māori language in Education through enhanced distance- and place-based blended approaches, including targeted support for the</p>	200,000 – over 4 years	2020/21 – 2023/24	-	2,021		<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Undertaking preparatory work and expect to be fully spent by the end of the funding period [METIS 1245488 refers].</li> <li>Allocated funding to regions and commenced discussions on how iwi can use this funding to support whānau engagement.</li> <li>Investing time up front to clarify how this work and funding will contribute to engaging ākonga Māori in education pathways.</li> <li>Achieving this outcome requires the education sector to work differently, including valuing the expertise that resides in iwi, to better deliver programmes that support Māori learners.</li> </ul>

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Name	Description	Funding allocated (in \$000)	Period	Funding spent 2019-20 (in \$000)	Funding spent as of 31 October 2020 (in \$000)	Funding returned (for 2019/20 funding) (in \$000)	Progress and funding updates
	education workforce, resource development and information to learners and whānau.						<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Procuring te reo Māori components for implementation in early 2021.</li> <li>Signed a new Memorandum of Understanding and funding agreement between with NKAI in November 2020.</li> <li>Undertaken thorough planning and initiation for the te reo Māori component of this programme in preparation for the implementation of te reo Māori initiatives in early 2021.</li> </ul>
23.Targeted Support for Pacific Learners and Families	Time-limited funding to provide targeted support for Pacific learners and families to engage in education as part of the COVID-19 response, subject to further work on operational arrangements.	80,209 – over 4 years	2020/21 - 2023/24	-	-		<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Hiring a regional FTE by early 2021.</li> <li>Will start Professional Learning and Development design workshops in early 2021.</li> <li>Opened the Pacific Education Innovation Fund in September. Received 194 applications valued at \$15.6 million by 9 November 2020.</li> <li>Opened the Pacific Education Support Fund. Received 130 applications valued at \$7.8 million by 9 November 2020. Distributed \$0.0005 million.</li> <li>Assessing applications for both funds with decisions to be made in December 2020.</li> <li>Undertaking the remaining three initiatives funded by this package. Funds have been disbursed to the regions and funding agreements for grants are anticipated to be finalised in December 2020.</li> </ul>
24.Increasing Trades Academy Places and Supporting Secondary Transitions	This initiative provides funding for two components: 1. Increase in the volume of Trades Academy places by 1,000 places a year from 2021 ongoing. This is intended to give schools more options to meet the needs of their students during the expected economic downturn and it will ultimately help with our recovery by building up our skilled workforce. 2. Continue funding for the network of Ministry regionally-based staff to provide specialist support for schools and tertiary education organisations, focusing on learner achievement, retention and transition, and those not in education, employment or training.	32,323 – over 4 years	2020/21 - 2023/24	-	-		<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Will take effect in early 2021.</li> </ul>
25.Network-as-a-Service and Cybersecurity for Schools   renamed Te Mana Tūhono	This initiative will provide funding to support the delivery and integrity of the rollout of NCEA Online. It ensures that schools' ageing network hardware is upgraded and cybersecurity protection is installed to tackle the increasing risk of phishing scams, data leaks, and exposure to harmful websites.	49,042 – over 4 years	2020/21 - 2023/24		630		<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>On track for the final end date over a 4-year period despite slight delays since August caused by the regional lockdown.</li> <li>Contracted Network for Learning Limited (N4L) to deliver ICT network equipment upgrades in all eligible State and State-Integrated schools over four years, including NCEA Online.</li> <li>100 schools had received upgrades by November, and with high levels of satisfaction.</li> <li>Schools are seeing the benefits of N4L engineers cybersecurity monitoring and advice.</li> </ul>



Initiative		Funding					Comments
Name	Description	Funding allocated (in \$000)	Period	Funding spent 2019-20 (in \$000)	Funding spent as of 31 October 2020 (in \$000)	Funding returned (for 2019/20 funding) (in \$000)	Progress and funding updates
							<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Undertaking contract negotiations for N4L to create and operate a Security Operations Centre for all schools in December 2020.</li> <li>Expecting underspends of the appropriations in this financial year, which will be addressed with requests for in-principle, expense or capital transfers through the March Baseline Update 2021 process.</li> </ul>
26. Addressing Supplier Contractual Obligations Arising from the Impact of COVID-19	<p>In line with MBIE guidance (NZS 3910:2013) and the Construction Sector Accord, this funding allowed the Ministry to cover fair and reasonable costs incurred as a result of the impact of COVID-19, including the suspension of works.</p> <p>Cabinet tagged \$18 million in OpEx and \$89 million of CapEx of the COVID-19 Response and Recovery Fund in contingency for this purpose.</p>	107,000 – over 1 year	2020/21	-	4,850		<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Received \$5.3 million of contractor claims and \$0.4 million in consultant claims.</li> <li>Reimbursed \$4.85 million in claims by August 2020.</li> <li>Developing a communications campaign to raise awareness and boost the amount of funding disbursed in the coming months.</li> <li>Preparing an Education Report for the first drawdown from this contingency in December 2020 [METIS 1245468 refers].</li> <li>Underspends are not applicable as funding was held in contingency and will expire on 30 June 2021.</li> </ul>
27. Mitigating Impacts of Socio-Economic Disadvantage: School Lunches	This initiative provides funding to relieve food insecurity and improve educational outcomes for students through expanding the Free and Healthy School Lunch Programme to up to 190,000 more Year 1 to 13 students. Delivery targets schools with the highest disadvantage using the Equity Index. Before the pandemic, around one in five children lived in households with severe or moderate food insecurity. This initiative will help cushion the blow of COVID-19 impacts on students in already socio-economically disadvantaged households who will now be experiencing heightened financial stress, job and income losses. In Term 3 recruitment, planning and systems development will support the scaled-up programme, with expansion of school lunches starting in Term 4.	220,600 – over 2 years	2020/21 – 2021/22	-	-		<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>The Ka Ora, Ka Ako programme is currently serving lunches to more than 39,000 students in 182 schools nation-wide.</li> <li>Expanding the school lunches programme from Term 4, 2020.</li> <li>Undertaking Tranche 4 for the programme to secure suppliers for the next 154,400 students in 604 schools. Starting delivery in these schools from Term 1, 2021.</li> <li>Anticipating an operating underspend for 2019/20 due to the implementation timeline, but the amount is unspecified at this stage.</li> <li>Will provide further detail once the final numbers of participating schools and students are confirmed in 2021.</li> </ul>
Support for Early Learning Services in Lieu of the Childcare Subsidy (FNA from VOTE Social Development)	Provision to support early learning services who would have likely received the Childcare Subsidy under normal circumstances through the payment of a lump sum grant to cover the period of 6 April 2020 until the end of COVID-19 Alert Level 3.	8,733 – over 1 year	2019/20	3,050		5,683	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Returned underspend.</li> </ul>
Funding of Childcare for Essential Workers	Providing childcare to essential workers (home-based ECE providers).	20,240 – over 1 year	2019/20	1,272		18,968	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Returned underspend.</li> </ul>
Vocational Training	Developing an apprenticeship support scheme to keep apprentices in jobs and support employers to invest in new ones as we rebuild the economy from the impact of COVID-19.	N/A					Not included in this paper. Progress on implementing initiatives that received funding under Vote Tertiary Education, or other funds that support the Vote Tertiary Education portfolio, are outside the scope of the request.