



Education Report: Approval to consult on the establishment of a Composite school (Year 7-10) at Chapel Downs, Flat Bush, Auckland

To:	Hon Jan Tinetti, Associate Minister of Education (School Operations)		
Cc:	Hon Chris Hipkins, Minister of Education		
Date:	25 August 2022	Priority:	High
Security Level:	In Confidence	METIS No:	1290653
Drafter:	Theresa Webb, Lead Adviser	DDI:	9(2)(a) [REDACTED]
Key Contact:	Janet Schofield, Manager Network Planning	DDI	9(2)(a) [REDACTED]
Messaging seen by Communications team:	No	Round Robin:	No

Purpose of report

This report requests your approval for consultation on the establishment of a new composite (Year 7-10) school in Flat Bush, Auckland. Consultation is required under section 209 of the Education and Training Act 2020 (the Act) before a new school is established.

The Ministry supports this proposal because additional capacity is required in the network to meet the increasing growth and demand.

Summary

1. The Ormiston Mission Heights is a high growth catchment in the National Education Growth Plan (NEGP). Collectively, once all housing developments are complete there are expected to be 5,550 additional dwellings in the Ormiston Mission Heights catchment. This may generate up to an additional 1,800 junior college (Year 7-10) students. Housing developments are expected to impact the roll of all schools within this and neighbouring catchments.
2. We have been engaging with local schools to explore options to respond to growth within this catchment. This includes providing additional classrooms and master planning school sites to their optimum capacity, amending enrolment schemes to distribute the growth, and establishing new schools.

3. Through this engagement and analysis of the impact of growth projections on the existing network of schools, agreement has been reached that another junior college (Year 7-10 composite school) is required. A new composite school would ensure that pathways across the schooling network remain consistent with the current primary / junior college / senior college model operating across the network of schools.
4. It is proposed that a new Year 7-10 composite school is established to cater for a roll of 1,500 students. Additional student places in the school network are required by 2025.
5. It is proposed that the composite school is co-located on the site of Chapel Downs School. Chapel Downs is a Year 1-6 contributing primary school situated on a large site, with capacity to accommodate another school.
6. Should the establishment of the composite school be approved, then a satellite unit of Mt Richmond Specialist School would be included in the planning for the facilities of the composite school.
7. We have discussed the possibility of building the composite school on the site with the Chapel Downs School Board, and they support the proposal. The Board has written to us expressing an interest in exploring a change of governance model if the proposed school is established. The Board is requesting that consideration is given to a combined board for both schools.
8. Under clause 7 of schedule 22 of the Education and Training Act 2020 (the Act), the Minister may establish a single board (combined board) to administer a number of schools. If you approve consultation on the proposed composite school, we would undertake consultation on the proposal to have a combined board with Chapel Downs Primary School and provide more information to you on this in the next report.
9. Section 209 of Act requires that you consult with the boards of all state schools whose rolls might be affected by the establishment of a new school. We would also consult on the proposed combined board as part of this consultation. If you agree to this proposal, the Ministry will complete the consultation on your behalf, as well as consultation with iwi and other sector parties.
10. Once consultation is complete, a further education report will be provided detailing the feedback from the consultation process, for you to consider any issues before deciding whether to formally establish a new school under section 190 of the Act.
11. We consider that the new composite school is necessary to cater for the anticipated population growth and recommend that you approve consultation on the establishment of a composite school on the site of Chapel Downs School.

Recommended actions

We recommend that you:

- a) **note** that Ormiston Mission Heights is a high growth area in the NEGP, with residential developments planned in the Flat Bush South area; and
- b) **note** the proposal for a new composite school (Year 7-10) to be established at 170 Dawson Road, Flat Bush on the site of the Chapel Downs School; and
- c) **note** if the new composite school is established, the Chapel Downs School Board has requested consideration into a combined school board. We would be including this as part of the consultation; and
- d) **agree** that the Ministry undertake, consultation under section 209 of the Education and Training Act 2020 on your behalf. This consultation is with schools whose rolls might be affected by the possible establishment of the proposed school, and with iwi and other affected parties.

☒ Agree ☐ Disagree

If you agree to this consultation, you are asked to:

- e) **note** that a further report will be provided to you about the findings of the consultation feedback and seeking a decision on the establishment of the proposed school; and

We also recommend that you:

- f) **agree** that this education report be proactively released in line with your expectations. Any information that might need to be withheld will be done so in line with the provisions of the Official Information Act 1982.

☒ Agree ☐ Disagree


Isabel Evans
Hautū | Deputy Secretary
Te Mahau | Te Tai Raro

25/08/2022


Hon Jan Tinetti
Associate Minister of Education
School Operations

04/09 / 2022

Background

1. The Ormiston Flat Bush area is located in the Ormiston Mission Heights catchment in the NEGP. Collectively, once all housing developments are complete, there are expected to be 5,550 additional dwellings in the Ormiston Mission Heights catchment, which may generate up to an additional 1,800 junior college (Year 7-10) students. This is expected to impact the rolls of all schools within this and adjacent catchments of the NEGP.
2. A network assessment has recently been completed for this catchment which assesses the impact of this intensive development, on the schooling network. Analysis of new residential areas in Ormiston identified there are more children per household than average, up to twice as many at secondary age as is typically seen across Auckland.
3. We have been engaging with schools in the Ormiston Mission Heights catchment to explore the best growth response options. This includes providing additional classrooms and master planning school sites to their optimum capacity, amending enrolment schemes to distribute the growth and establishing new schools.
4. Through this engagement and analysis of the growth projections for the existing schools, agreement was reached that another primary school and junior college are required to cater for the anticipated growth. This network is predominantly a contributing (Year 1-6), junior college (Year 7-10) and senior college (Year 11-13) network of schools with consistent pathways.
5. You recently received a report about the proposed establishment of a new primary school in this catchment (METIS 1290485 refers). It is proposed that a new co-educational Year 7-10 composite school is established at 170 Dawson Road, Flat Bush. Additional student places in the school network are required by 2025.
6. The new composite school would accommodate future growth and ensure that pathways across the network remain consistent with the current primary / junior college / senior college model.

Proposed location and property

7. The proposed location of the new composite school is on the same site as the existing Chapel Downs School, a Year 1-6 contributing state school located at 170 Dawson Road, Flat Bush. This school is on a large site (50,500m²) with capacity to accommodate another school. In addition, there is an early learning service onsite.
8. We have discussed the possibility of building the proposed composite school on this site with the Chapel Downs School Board. The Board is supportive and considers that the development of the composite school would provide a strong pathway for their students and the wider community.
9. Chapel Downs School is undergoing master planning to cater for 1,250 students and its home zone is also proposed to be amended. The redevelopment of the school would include two teaching spaces for a satellite of the Mt Richmond Special School. As part of the master planning, we will consider the appropriate location of the proposed composite school and any shared facilities.
10. It is proposed that the new composite school would be designed for a roll of 1,500 students and would also include a satellite unit of Mt Richmond Special School. It is

proposed that the two schools may share non-teaching space facilities in a similar manner as the Mission Heights Junior and Senior College campus.

Network Analysis

12. The Ormiston Mission Heights catchment is under extreme roll pressure due to extensive development in the catchment. Once all developments are complete, there are expected to be 5,550 additional dwellings in the Ormiston Mission Heights catchment. This provides a potential yield of up to an additional 2,940 primary school aged children (Year 1-6), and 1,800 junior college (Year 7-10) aged children.
13. As part of the immediate response, we are providing additional classrooms at the existing primary schools and Ormiston colleges to increase their capacity. In addition, to prevent overcrowding, amendments to primary school enrolment scheme home zones will be consulted on, to ensure that the size of the zone matches the optimum capacity of the school.
14. Recent network analysis demonstrates that alongside this response, there is a need for an additional primary school and an additional junior college to accommodate population growth. The current Year 7-10 junior college network cannot grow further to accommodate estimated future demand.
15. The proposed location of the new composite school is on the same site as the existing Chapel Downs School, which is located in the Sir Edmund Hillary Tangaroa catchment of the NEGP. This catchment is adjacent to the Ormiston Mission Heights catchment. The home zone of the Chapel Downs School's enrolment scheme covers part of the Ormiston Mission Heights catchment. The proposed composite school would have an enrolment scheme that aligns with the Chapel Downs School zone and the proposed new primary school at Flat Bush South.
16. Secondary students would pathway through to both Tangaroa College and Ormiston Senior College. This would be dependent on their home address and the home zones for both Colleges.
17. Two secondary schools to the west, Kia Aroha College and Tangaroa College, have surplus capacity. However, these schools are not considered feasible options to absorb future demand. Kia Aroha College is a Designated Character school, and neither school is well positioned to accommodate upcoming growth in the Ormiston Mission Heights Catchment as development is concentrated in the east.

Governance

18. The Chapel Downs School Board has written to us (Annex 2) expressing an interest in exploring a change of governance model if the proposed school is established. The Board is requesting that consideration is given to a combined board across the two schools. Amongst other factors, the Board has noted:
 - a. The Chapel Downs Board is well placed and capable of leading the creation of the new school.

- b. The new school, sharing a site and resources with Chapel Downs School, would be best served operating under the governance of the same board.
19. The Minister of Education must, when considering whether to establish a combined board under clause 7, schedule 22 of the Act, be satisfied that:
 - a. Each of the boards concerned has made reasonable efforts to consult the parents of students (other than adult students) enrolled full time at its schools or special institutions about combining with the other boards; and
 - b. The consultation that has taken place has been adequate in all the circumstances; and
 - c. The proposed combined board is appropriate in all the circumstances.
20. In these circumstances, there is only one board concerned (the Chapel Downs Board). Therefore, we propose that consultation about the combined board is undertaken with the community of Chapel Downs Primary School, at the same time as the consultation about the establishment of the proposed school.
21. The consultation process on the proposal for a combined board will consider if a combined board for both schools should be established.
22. The feedback from this consultation will be worked through with the Board of Chapel Downs Primary School and a final recommendation on the governance structure for the proposed school will be provided to you in the next phase of the establishment process.

Consultation

23. Before establishing a new school under section 190 of the Act, you must first consult with the boards of all state schools whose rolls might be affected under section 209 of the Act. The Ministry will undertake the consultation on your behalf.
24. We have identified the following schools whose rolls might be affected by the proposed establishment:

School	Year levels
Ormiston Primary School	Year 1-6
Baverstock Oaks School	Year 1-6
Te Uho O Te Nikau Primary School	Year 1-6
Mission Heights Primary School	Year 1-6
Chapel Downs Primary School	Year 1-6
Redoubt North Primary School	Year 1-8
Ormiston Junior College	Year 7-10
Ormiston Senior College	Year 11-13
Mission Heights Junior College	Year 7-10
Tangaroa College	Year 9-13
Ferguson Intermediate School	Year 7-8

25. We will also consult with other schools in the wider network, our iwi partners, and sector groups, such as New Zealand Educational Institute, Auckland Primary Principals' Association and Post Primary Teachers' Association.
26. We anticipate consultation could be completed in four to six weeks. This would allow time for iwi, sector groups, school boards and community groups to discuss the issue

before making a response. Some boards might also consult with their school community.

27. Once the consultation has been completed, we will provide you with a report so you can consider any issues before deciding whether to establish the new school under section 190 of the Act. The formal establishment would not occur until a suitable site has been secured.
28. As noted, we also propose to consult on the proposal to establish a combined board for the new composite school and Chapel Downs Primary School as part of this consultation.

Risks

29. The establishment of the new composite school is required as part of our response to growth and demand in this school network. Significant roll pressure in the primary network is transitioning through to the secondary network. If the composite school is not established, it is likely that the Ministry will not be able to provide sufficient capacity in the network for Year 7-10 students.

Financial Implications

30. Funding for the school will be sought through future budgets, including seed funding in the first instance for the planning and design process.

Next steps

31. If you agree, the Ministry will consult with the boards of all schools whose rolls might be affected by the establishment of the composite school. We would also consult with sector bodies, local iwi and hapū, and community groups as appropriate.
32. Following consultation, we will prepare a final report with the feedback from the consultation for your consideration and ask for your decision on the establishment of the new school.

Proactive release

33. It is intended that this Education Report be proactively released. 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 to local Members of Parliament
Annex 2: Letter from Chapel Downs School

Proactively Released

Hon Jan Tinetti

Minister of Internal Affairs
Minister for Women
Associate Minister of Education



Christopher Luxon
Member of Parliament for Botany
Parliament Buildings
Wellington

Tēnā koe Mr Luxon

I am pleased to inform you that I am beginning the consultation on the proposed establishment of a new composite (Year 7 – 10) school in Flat Bush, Auckland. The proposed school would cater for up to 1,500 students.

Under section 209 of the Education and Training Act 2020, I am required to undertake consultation with the boards of all state school whose rolls might be affected if this school is established. The Ministry of Education is carrying out this consultation on my behalf.

If you have any questions or concerns about this process, please contact Ken White on 9(2)(a) [REDACTED] or 9(2)(a) [REDACTED].

Nāku noa, nā

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read 'J. Tinetti'.

Hon Jan Tinetti
Associate Minister of Education (School Operations)

Hon Jan Tinetti

Minister of Internal Affairs
Minister for Women
Associate Minister of Education



Hon Peeni Henare
Member of Parliament for Tāmaki Makaurau
Parliament Buildings
Wellington

Tēnā koe Peeni

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Nāku noa, nā

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Hon Jan Tinetti
Associate Minister of Education (School Operations)

Annex 2: Letter from Chapel Downs School

Proactively Released