



Briefing Note: Visit to Onslow College on Thursday 30 March 2023

To:	Hon Jan Tinetti, Minister of Education		
Date:	23 March 2023	Priority:	Medium
Security Level:	In Confidence	METIS No:	1304141
Drafter:	Jay Barr	DDI:	9(2)(a)
Key Contact:	Kate Aldworth	DDI:	9(2)(a)
Messaging seen by Communications team:	No	Round Robin:	No

Purpose of Briefing Note

- The purpose of this paper is to support your visit to **Onslow College** in Wellington on **Thursday 30 March 2023** from 9:00am to 10am to gain an understanding of the building projects at the school.
- A run sheet for the visit is included in Annex 1.

Core School Information

Onslow College (269)

Contact Name: Ms Sheena Millar
9(2)(a)

Address: Burma Road
Johnsonville
Wellington 6440

Key People

Principal: Sheena Millar, 9(2)(a)

Ministry Officials: Kate Aldworth, Acting Director of Education, 9(2)(a)
Te Rangipai Renata, Manager Education, 9(2)(a)

Profile Information

Authority	State
School Type	Secondary (Year 9-15)
School Gender	Co-Ed
Education Medium	English
Equity Index Rating	391
Electorate	Ōhāriu
Te Mahau Region	Wellington

The July 2022 breakdown of roll information by ethnicity is shown below:

July 2022 Roll	Number	Percentage (%)
European/Pākehā	845	64.5%
Asian	224	17.1%
Māori	130	9.9%
Other ethnicity	70	5.3%
Pacific	32	2.4%
International	10	0.8%
Total	1,311	100%

School Context

- 1 Onslow College is one of only two co-educational, secondary, state schools in Wellington City that do not require a uniform. Onslow College (along with Wellington High School) receive a disproportionate number of applications for directed enrolments from students living outside their enrolment zones. A large majority of these applications are from LGBTQI+ students as the college caters well for students in the rainbow community.
- 2 Student Attendance data in the table below for 2022 shows the impact COVID-19 outbreaks had on school attendance in Terms 2 & 3. To support attendance at the school we contracted Ngāti Toa to be the Attendance Service provider that covers Onslow.

2022 Attendance			
	Term 1	Term 2	Term 3
90% +	75.5	56.6	50.4
80% - 90%	13.8	23.3	25.4

- 3 Student Engagement 2022 National Stand-Down and Suspension data is not yet available, but 2021 National data notes the Stand-Down rate at 26.8 per 1,000 students and Suspensions at 3.1 per 1,000 students. Onslow College's Stand-Down rate is 19.6 and their Suspension rate is 3.4.

2021 Stand-Downs & Suspensions	
Stand-Downs	40
Suspensions	9

- 4 NCEA Results continue to improve as shown in the table below. The gap between total student and Māori student results continues to close at L2 & 3 but the outlier is the L1 2021 results for Māori, which were significantly poorer than 2020. In 2020 the L2 Māori results exceeded that of the total student results.

NCEA L1 or above %			
	2019	2020	2021
Total	96.0	95.7	96.8
Māori	92.3	95.0	86.4
NCEA L2 or above %			
	2019	2020	2021
Total	88.3	90.6	90.5
Māori	80.8	95.0	86.4
NCEA L3 or above %			
	2019	2020	2021
Total	66.9	74.0	74.6
Māori	57.7	60.0	72.7

Education Review Office

- 5 The school was last visited by the Education Review Office (ERO) in December 2022 where ERO recommended that the school prioritise:
- *senior leaders and teachers collaborating to develop and present an overview of the Onslow College effective teacher profile, underpinned by key research findings*
 - *the development of a shared understanding of how restorative practices, universal design for learning, learning conversations and data (learning information) underpin the effective teacher profile*
 - *visible and clear curriculum development focused on equity*

Kāhui Ako | Communities of Learning

- 6 The school belongs to Tarikākā Kāhui Ako. It is the only college in the Kāhui Ako.

Participation in government programmes

- 7 The school is ineligible for the following:
- School Donations Scheme.
 - Ka Ora, Ka Ako | Healthy School Lunch Programme
- 8 The school has opted-in to the Ikura | Manaakitia te whare tangata – Period products in schools initiative and applied for Round 2 of the Creatives in Schools projects but was unsuccessful.

Impact of COVID-19

- 9 The school has suffered from COVID-19 amongst its staff forcing them to roster students home for hybrid learning at various year levels and at various times during the year.
- 10 In 2022 Onslow College submitted six applications for the Urgent Response Fund totalling \$47,011.00. Two applications were declined for \$11,591.00 as they did not meet the criteria. Four applications were approved in full for \$35,420.00 in 2020 to support focussed programmes for the wellbeing of 200 akonga presenting with increased social, emotional and behavioural needs. Additional counsellors were needed in the school as they were experiencing a period of increased suicidal ideation among their student body.


Property

- 11 The school opened in 1956 and most of the buildings are 50-60 years old. Overall, the condition of property is variable from poor to good. Historic prioritisation of internal upgrades over building envelope and infrastructure investment has led to the need for substantial investment in these areas. There are areas of basic preventive maintenance like gutter and drain cleaning that could be more proactively managed.
- 12 To support the school, multiple projects are underway led by the Ministry. Currently there is a rolling project of roof remediation and associated making good to internal areas with work completed on Block K and N at the end of February. This will be followed by work on Blocks L and M and then Blocks I, H and O. The board and school have expressed concern that we are only repairing some of the building and not completing a full refurbishment or replacement.
- 13 The previous 10YPP, \$1,679,453 supported infrastructure projects and the refurbishment of toilets and classrooms. The new 10YPP has been supplemented with

additional funding of \$2,000,000 with a total value of \$3,979,148. This funding will enable further infrastructure work, heating, electrical and cladding and window replacement as well as more roofing. The school are frustrated that funding is insufficient to allow all teaching spaces to be upgraded within the next five years.

- 14 In December 2019, the then Minister of Education announced a major expansion of 20 roll growth and 7 replacement teaching spaces were planned for this school. A long-term Masterplan was developed and agreed in 2022 for a future build roll of 2130 students. Subsequently the scope of this project has been changed to incorporate the replacement of the administration block with a total of 20 teaching spaces and some modular buildings (which have been delivered to the school). Design continues through 2023 for the new administration and teaching spaces with construction to follow.
- 15 Part of the design seeks also to address a health and safety issue of buses driving through the heart of the school by delivering a large bus bay at the front of the school.
- 16 The school is managing a significant learning support project to reconfigure and create appropriate safe spaces for two students with complex needs. This has required the school to allocate more dedicated space to students with learning support needs where previously students have been mainstreamed. The improved internal quality learning environments will need to be met over time through the standard 10YPP funding.
- 17 The school expressed concern over the length of time interventions on the school buildings was taking. The current Property Advisor and Capital Works Delivery Manager continue to work closely with the school to plan and deliver the projects.

Other known risks or issues

- 18 9(2)(g)(i) 
- 19 The school is unhappy about the number of out-of-zone enrolments Wellington College is taking through the ballot process and its impacts on other city schools. The Principal and students intend to raise this issue with you. We have recently received media and OIA requests for data on out of zone enrolments at Wellington College.

Learning Support

- 20 Currently Onslow College has 9(2)(g) ORS students enrolled, 9(2)(g)(i) of whom have started this year. They are supported by a Te Mahau Special Education Advisor, a Psychologist, an Occupational Therapist, and a Speech Language Therapist, all of whom are at Onslow on a regular basis. 9(2)(g)(i) students are supported through the

behaviour service. The school has expressed frustrations around property modifications for ORS students.

- 21 A Learning Support property modification project in response to the late enrolment of Very High Needs ORS students who started this year is underway and due for completion by late February 2023. The spaces at the school for students with learning support needs have now been significantly improved. The Principal is likely to raise the modification project, along with property maintenance issues.

Proactive Release

- a **agree** that the Ministry of Education release this briefing once it has been considered by you and the visit has occurred.

☒ Agree ☐ Disagree



Nancy Bell
Hautū | Deputy Secretary
Te Mahau | Te Tai Runga
23/03/2023



Hon Jan Tinetti
Minister of Education

24/03/2023

Annexes

- Annex 1: Runsheet

Proactively Released

Annex 1: Run Sheet

Time	Activity	Other details
9:00am	Minister arrives and is greeted by Sheena Millar, the Principal	Other attendees include: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Te Ātiawa mana whenua Greg O'Connor, MP for Ōhāriu Ministry Officials: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Kate Aldworth, Acting Director of Education Te Rangipai Renata, Manager Education
	Pōwhiri commences <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Te Ātiawa Taranaki Whānui tikanga 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Te Rangipai Renata will reply for the Minister
	Principal introduces the Minister	
	Minister speaks <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Opens for questions and answers from the students (30mins) 	
	Principal takes the Minister on a tour of the school to understand the building projects	
10:00am	Minister departs	