



Briefing Note: 2022 NCEA Results

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| To: | Hon Jan Tinetti, Associate Minister of Education | | |
| Cc: | Hon Chris Hipkins, Minister of Education | | |
| Date: | 16 January 2023 | Priority: | Low |
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| Messaging seen by Communications team: | No | Round Robin: | No |

Purpose of Report

The purpose of this paper is for you to:

- Note** that you have received the overall attainment results for NCEA in 2022 from NZQA *Provisional 2022 Enrolment-based NCEA and University Entrance National Attainment Statistics* [OC00061 refers].
- Note** additional information and risks in relation to NCEA Change Programme pilot school results.
- Note** that we are providing your office with key messages and back pocket Q and As related to this.

Summary

- NZQA has provided you with an overview of NCEA provisional attainment in 2022. This Briefing provides you with an overview of some key matters arising from the provisional results.
- The first relates to the results across NCEA Change Programme pilot schools. While this information is not in the briefing provided to you by NZQA, we have identified that there are some pilots where there is a difference between the usual distribution of NAME¹ results for students at pilot schools in previous years and those received in pilot standards in 2022 depending on the subject and/or standard. Although further analysis needs to occur on the sources of variation, we believe the differences are generally explainable. For example, the experience of pilot schools trialling new

¹ Not achieved, Achieved, Merit and Excellence

classroom strategies, draft standards and different forms of assessment will inevitably lead to some variation in results.

- The second relates to the overall attainment results. From 20 January, schools will have access to overall provisional attainment data. Schools may use the provisional data to make judgements on the success (or not) of 2022 COVID-19 interventions. We have prepared reactive communications should this occur.

Proactive Release

We recommend that you

- **agree** that the Ministry of Education release this briefing in full once the final 2022 NCEA results are made public later this year.

☒ Agree / ☐ Disagree.



Kiritina Johnstone
**(Acting) Hautū | Deputy Secretary
Te Poutāhū | Curriculum Centre**

13/01/2023



Hon Jan Tinetti
**Associate Minister of
Education**

16/01/2023

Background

1. NZQA has provided you with an overview of NCEA attainment for 2022. From this information we know that there is some variation between pilot schools results and prior achievement from those schools.
2. NZQA has carried out analysis of pilot school achievement and compared this against achievement of those school in previous years. From this data, we can see that there are some schools where there is a difference in their usual distribution of NAME results for students depending on the subject and/or standard. While further analysis will be carried out to understand the exact reasons for this, we believe these differences to be generally explainable. Specific reasons will vary from standard to standard, however we know that some of this may be explained by the newness of the standards and assessments and teachers engaging in new teaching and learning strategies and new forms of assessment.
3. The results also show the impact of COVID-19 and attendance related issues on overall attainment of NCEA in 2022. NZQA have set out for you how this means our COVID-19 interventions have been successful in mitigating the impacts of COVID-19 disruption in 2022.
4. We note that from 20 January, schools will have access to this data and may have a view on whether this means COVID-19 interventions have been successful or not. We note this as a risk below and have included this in our reactive media statements.

Risks

5. There may be a perception that from the results of pilot schools, when compared against previous years that there have been disadvantages in participating in the NCEA Change Programme pilots. We think that this risk is low as the differences are likely to be explainable. The Ministry will be proactively contacting pilot schools to provide messaging on this point and ensure that pilot schools feel supported and encouraged by their participation in the pilots.
6. There is also a risk that some students participating in the NCEA pilots may have missed out on NCEA Level 1 attainment. NZQA estimates this cohort to be small i.e. a handful of students. While we cannot say whether this is specifically because of pilot participation, there may be a perception that this is the case. Schools will be supported, as they are in all circumstances, to understand avenues for supporting those learners with credentialling opportunities at the beginning of 2023. NZQA is working to ensure that the timing of NCEA awards will be flexible in 2023 as part of our COVID-19 intervention package, which will support learners completing standards in early 2023.
7. As above, there is a risk that overall attainment is considered to be lower than expected and that students have been disadvantaged by COVID-19 disruption in NCEA. We will manage these concerns reactively alongside NZQA.

Next Steps

8. To mitigate the risks outlined above, the Ministry is supporting pilot schools with key messages to help understand their results in context. In addition to this, we are

providing the opportunity for pilot schools to get in touch with us to discuss their results, should they wish.

9. We are also providing your office with:
 - a. Back pocket Q and As
 - b. Ministry media responses
10. These cover content both relating to pilot participation as well as the impacts of COVID-19 on the overall results.
11. We will also provide these key messages to your Professional Advisory Group as a courtesy heads up on the information being provided to pilot schools.
12. We will work with your offices to understand who might lead any media on the matters raised in this briefing, should any opportunities arise.