



BRIEFING NOTE: Visit to Auckland Girls' Grammar School on Tuesday 15 June 2021

To:	Hon Jan Tinetti, Associate Minister of Education		
Cc:	Hon Chris Hipkins, Minister of Education Rt Hon Jacinda Ardern, Prime Minister		
Date:	11 June 2021	Priority:	High
Security Level:	In Confidence	METIS No:	1261867
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Messaging seen by Communications team:	Yes	Round Robin:	No

Purpose

1. This briefing note provides information to support Minister Tinetti's visit to Auckland Girls' Grammar School on Tuesday 15 June 2021 to celebrate the start of free period products being delivered to schools and kura.

Proactive Release

2. **Agree** this briefing will be proactively released.

Agree / Disagree



Jann Marshall
Associate Deputy Secretary
Network and School Delivery
Sector Enablement and Support

11/6/2021



Hon Jan Tinetti
Associate Minister of Education

12/06/2021

AUCKLAND GIRLS' GRAMMAR (53)

Contact Name: Ngaire Ashmore (Principal)
9(2)(a)

Address: 16 Howe St, Freemans Bay, Auckland 1011

Key People

Presiding member: Gary Bramley
9(2)(a)

Principal: Ngaire Ashmore
9(2)(a)

Head girl: Jane Fasavalu

Deputy Principal: Maree Flannery
Lead School Nurse: Belinda (Belle) Lee
Head of PE: Tanya Waka

Ministry Official/s: Mr Roshyn Lyons
Manager Education - Central Auckland

Background

- 1 The purpose of the visit is to mark the national roll out of free period products to schools and kura.
- 2 Auckland Girls' Grammar School is one of 1,619 schools and kura (as at 8 June 2021). to opt-in to receive free period products through the initiative.
- 3 There are four product suppliers for the initiative (Organic Initiative (Oi), The Warehouse Group, Crimson Organic and Kimberly-Clark) and one contracted distributor (Blue Star). Schools and kura will receive a randomised mix of products from each supplier in their order.
- 4 A suite of communication materials including a media statement and talking points are attached as Annex 1 and 2.

Period Products initiative implementation

- 5 The plan is for the school's newly formed Health Committee, which consists of the Head of Department of Physical Education, Lead Health Nurse and student reps from each year level, to work together to finalise the delivery plan of the period product initiative, in a way the girls feel is respectful to students in need. The committee will also further refine the programme with feedback from the girls once the programme is implemented.
- 6 A group of Year 12 students are focussing on period poverty for their Social Studies "social action" standard.

Visit and event information

- 7 Auckland Girls' Grammar are expecting you to arrive at the school at 9:30 for a one-hour visit.

Time	Activity
9:30	Powhiri
9:40	Met by Principal and head students
9:45	Meeting with Principal and head students to talk about what is currently happening with period products in the school
10:00	Meet with student Health Council to discuss challenges girls face dealing with periods and any impact this has on their education. In addition will share their thinking about how this might be rolled out in the school, points they will be considering and how to get more student input into roll out of the programme.
10:20	Meet with Head school Nurse and teacher heading and supporting the health programme at AGGS
10:30	Minister escorted out of the school

Issues

Ka Ora Ka Ako – Healthy School Lunches programme

- 8 The school began serving lunches on 29 March 2021. They have chosen the external delivery model.
- 9 The school's supplier is 3 Guys Limited T/A Deejays and is relatively new and is coming to terms with being part of the programme; providing a daily nutritious lunch at scale alongside understanding the needs of the students and the school community.
- 10 This is not uncommon for suppliers who are in the programme, especially considering the scale and volume in the Auckland region, and in particular supplying secondary schools where students have preferences regarding their food.
- 11 The principal remains supportive of the programme. We continue to work closely with both the school and the supplier to work through their issues.

School Information

Profile

Authority	State
School Type	Secondary (Year 9 – 15)
School Gender	Single Sex (Girls School)
Education Medium	English
Decile	3
Electorate	Auckland Central

- 12 The July 2020 breakdown of roll information is shown below:

July 2020 Roll	Number	Percentage (%)
Māori	211	22.5%
Pacific	522	55.7%
Asian	131	14%
Other	40	4.3%
European/ Pākehā	23	2.3%
International	16	1.7%
Total	938	100%

Education Review Office

- 13 The school was last visited by the Education Review Office (ERO) in 2018. ERO found that:
- o "relationships at all levels of the school are being strengthened, resulting in a more positive professional culture. The momentum for change is clearly focussed on achieving equity and excellence for all learners. ERO concludes that leadership and governance capability have developed sufficiently to be confident that school leaders can self-manage ongoing internal evaluation and school improvement."
- 14 ERO is due to return in three years.

Impact of COVID-19

- 15 Attendance was impacted by COVID-19, especially given that, due to historical links, some students travel a long distance in from South Auckland to attend this school and south Auckland was seriously impacted by COVID-19.
- 16 The principal also raised concerns that some of the senior students did not have access to the internet or devices to complete NCEA work, particularly for students living in the South Auckland area. The lack of connectivity meant that students had barriers to accessing NCEA learning materials and assessments.
- 17 A total of 166 devices were supplied as part of the Equitable Digital Access rollout 2020.
- 18 The current Ministry's 'connectivity project' has also included the school in its roll out.
- 19 In response to the impact of COVID-19 the school sought additional assistance through the Urgent Response Fund (URF) to support 159 senior students with their wellbeing and to improve their attendance.
- 20 \$28,667.20 was approved in 2020 and a further \$16,102.00 was approved in 2021 for a total of \$44,659.20 additional funding through URF.
- 21 The school's URF application was to improve attendance and wellbeing. It will fund additional counselling and teacher aides.

- 22 This school has two Health Science academies to support students into Health Science pathways. Massey University's Puhoro STEM Academy's mission is to raise participation and achievement of Māori students in STEM subjects to enable Māori to meet future workforce demands in STEM industries. The Future is Open to Us (FOU) Secondary is a Health Science Academy with a Pacific peoples focus, funded by Counties Manukau District Health Board to support students to realise their potential in a health career through partnering with the school.
- 23 2021 Rotary Model United Nations Assembly (MUNA) was hosted again on the Auckland Girls Grammar School grounds after an interruption by COVID-19 last year. The event was organised by teachers, Ms Rhodes with support from Mrs Parsons, Ms Ankersmit, the Social Sciences committee and other Auckland Girls' Grammar students.
- 24 Year 13 Business Studies students participated in the Lion Foundation Young Enterprise Scheme. Three companies were set up in February. All groups have competed a business planning portfolio and last week pitched their product idea to business judges from AUT. The businesses are:
- Kāri Tukutai Design, producing Te Reo greeting cards,
 - Pacific Wave, a bingo game teaching sign language, and
 - Natural4U, tablet sized soaps designed to be used 'on the go'.
- 25 Year 13 student 9(2)(a) is one of only sixteen students throughout New Zealand who has been selected to participate in the LatAm Biz: Entrepreneurship in Latin America programme.
- 26 Six Year 13 students were given an opportunity to spend a day at Jasmax, which is one of New Zealand's leading architectural practices based in Parnell. Their visit was facilitated by a Jasmax staff member, Icao Tiseli, who is an ex-student of Auckland Girls' Grammar School.
- 27 There are currently three students accessing the MIT Trades Academy.

Learning Support

- 28 This school has been implementing Positive Behaviour for Learning (PB4L) since May 2020.
- 29 The Ministry supported the Special Education Needs Coordinator (SENCO) with an application for a small number of students for In Class Support. The school had not applied before.
- 30 There are currently no students enrolled who are supported by the Ongoing Resource Scheme (ORS) or High Health (HH) needs.
- 31 The Learning Centre is staffed by a team of professionals whose focus is the individual learning needs of all students. Students from Years 9-13 attend the Centre for a variety of reasons. Students attending the Learning Centre have been referred by their teacher. They work on programmes designed to meet their individual needs.

Teacher/student or school achievements

- 32 The school is proud of its diversity, and commitment to developing ākonga knowledge, skills, and values necessary to face the challenges of the future and to participate in a bi-cultural and ethnically diverse society.
- 33 The school performed at the recent Polyfest with great success across all stages. Their Niuean and Samoa groups were overall winners on their stages.

Kāhui Ako | Communities of Learning

- 34 The school belongs to Mt Albert Kāhui Ako. The other schools in the Mt Albert Kāhui Ako are:
- Edendale School
 - Gladstone School
 - Kowhai Intermediate
 - Mt Albert Grammar School
 - Mt Albert Primary School
 - Owairaka District School
 - Wesley Intermediate School
 - Welsey Primary School.
- 35 The following Early childhood centres are also part of the Kāhui Ako:
- Bright Beginnings Early Learning Centre –Mt Roskill
 - Caterpillar Kids Early Learning Centre, Ferndale Kindergarten
 - Glow Kids
 - KINZ Sandringham Early Learning Centre
 - MARC Early Learning Centre
 - Morningside Kindergarten, and
 - Owairaka Kindergarten.
- 36 The Mt Albert Kāhui Ako are in the process of refreshing their achievement challenges.
- 37 One focus for the secondary schools has been increasing engagement of Māori and Pacific students in the sciences.

Participation in government programmes

School Donations Scheme

- 38 The school opted into the School Donations Scheme for 2020 and has opted in for 2021.
- 39 The school received \$162,668 in lieu of donations in 2020 and will receive \$159,908 in 2021 based on the July roll return.

Creatives in schools

- 40 Auckland Girls' Grammar did not apply for Round 1 or 2 of the Creatives in Schools projects.

Property

- 41 Auckland Girls' Grammar is a decile 3 secondary school with a current roll of 938 students. The school's overall property condition is fair.
- 42 The school's five-year property budget for capital projects is \$1.46m, and annual maintenance funding of almost \$140k is also provided.
- 43 A project to refurbish 14 classrooms in Block B is underway. The Ministry provided nearly 9(2)(j) of supplementary funding to enable this to proceed, due to the need for asbestos to be removed before works could be completed.
- 44 Investigations into structural issues with the gym and auditorium are being completed, which will inform next steps. The gym is currently closed as a result.
- 45 An innovative School Investment Package (\$400k) and Board-funded project (\$201k) will create a permanent shade structure over the netball court. This will also provide covered space while the gym is out of action.
- 46 A number of other school-led property works are planned or underway including targeted roofing repairs, fire alarm upgrades, changing and dressing room upgrades, and a boiler replacement.

Proactive Release

- 47 We recommend that this Briefing is proactively released as per your expectation that information be released as soon as possible. Any information which may need to be withheld will be done so in line with the provisions of the Official Information Act 1982.

Annexes

Annex 1:

9(2)(g)(i)

Annex 2: