



Briefing Note: Speaking points on the Social and Emotional Learning in Early Years Pilot for the Ministerial Group on the Child Youth and Wellbeing Strategy

To:	Hon Jan Tinetti, Associate Minister for Education		
Cc:	Hon Chris Hipkins, Minister for Education		
Date:	15 June 2022	Priority:	Medium
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Purpose of Report

This briefing note provides information and speaking points about the Social and Emotional Learning in Early Years pilot to support your meeting with the Ministerial Group on the Child Youth and Wellbeing Strategy on 21 June 2022.

Proactive Release

Agree that the Ministry of Education release this briefing in full once it has been considered by you.

☒ **Agree /** ☐ **Disagree**



Dr David Wales
Poutohu Matua | National Director
Learning Support Delivery
Te Pae Aronui

15/06/2022



Hon Jan Tinetti
Associate Minister of Education

21/06/2022

Background

1. Recommendation 36 of the *Royal Commission of Inquiry into the Terrorist Attack on Christchurch Masjidain on 15 March 2019* encourages the Government to invest in opportunities for young New Zealanders to learn about self-regulation.
2. The Government signalled its commitment to improving self-regulation skills in the early years and to implementing the recommendations of the report by funding \$5.243m over 18 months to trial and refine progress and practice tools for kaiako and the pilot of social and emotional learning (SEL) programmes for children aged 0-6 years [CAB-20-MIN-0513 refers]. This formed a key part of the initial response package to implement Recommendation 36.
3. The Ministry implemented a package of initiatives through to 30 June 2022 to build self-regulation, resilience and social skills in young children, which includes:
 - i. **piloting a scaling-up of ENGAGE**, a New Zealand developed SEL play-based programme across Auckland, Bay of Plenty and Otago Southland; and
 - ii. **testing SEL programmes The Alert Program and Incredible Beginnings** in early learning settings in order to create a strong evidence base.
4. This package is on track to exceed targets and reach up to 11,000 tamariki, 340 early learning services and 480 kaiako.
5. We consider social and emotional learning to be foundational to the achievement of the long-term wellbeing outcomes in many of the Government's priority work programmes, in particular child wellbeing, social cohesion and family violence and sexual violence prevention. Demonstrating this value to agency partners and Ministers will be key to achieving transformational change to how we fund and support the delivery of SEL in the early years.
6. Background on the SEL pilots has been provided to you previously (refer METIS 1287072).

Proactive Release

7. We recommend that this Briefing Note is proactively released once it has been considered by you.

Annex

Annex 1: Speaking Points on the SEL pilots