



Education Report: Approval to consult on the establishment of a new contributing primary school in Warkworth, Auckland.

To:	Hon Jan Tinetti, Minister of Education		
Date:	16 March 2023	Priority:	Medium
Security Level:	In Confidence	METIS no:	1300189
Drafter:	Theresa Webb Lead Advisor Network	DDI:	9(2)(a) [REDACTED]
Key Contact:	Janet Schofield Manager Network	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 proposed new Year 1-6 contributing primary school in Warkworth, Auckland. Under section 209 of the Education and Training Act 2020 (the Act) you are required to consult with the boards of all state schools whose rolls may be affected before establishing a new school.

Summary

- 1 Warkworth is located in the Mahurangi Rodney catchment of the National Education Growth Plan (NEGP), which has been identified as an area of complex growth. Warkworth has been identified as a satellite town in the Auckland Plan with forecast population growth of 20,000 people over the next 30 years.
- 2 To cater for the long-term population projections, the NEGP identified that at least two new primary schools would be required in Warkworth, as the town is expected to more than double in size. The proposed school, Warkworth North Primary School, is the first of these two schools to be proposed.
- 3 The school is planned to open in 2026 as a Year 1–6 contributing, co-educational, state primary school. The school will initially provide for 400 students and will include specialist learning support provision. A 4-hectare site at 100 Woodcocks Road, Warkworth has been purchased for the school.

- 4 Section 209 of the Education and Training Act 2020 requires that before establishing a school under section 190(1) of the Act, you must consult with the boards of all state schools whose rolls may be affected by the establishment of a new school. If you agree to this proposal, the Ministry will complete this consultation on your behalf, as well as consultation with iwi and other sector parties, in early 2023.
- 5 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 establish a new school under section 190 of the Act.
- 6 We consider that the new contributing primary school is necessary to cater for the anticipated population growth and recommend that you approve consultation on the establishment of this school in Warkworth.

Recommended Actions

The Ministry of Education recommends you:

- a) **note** that Mahurangi Rodney is an area of complex growth, and the proposal supports the National Education Growth Plan; and
- b) **note** the proposal for a new Year 1-6 contributing primary school to be established at 100 Woodcocks Road, Warkworth; and
- c) **note** that before establishing a school you must consult with the boards of all state schools whose rolls might be affected by the establishment. As part of this process, we would also take reasonable steps to discover and consider the views of specific stakeholders such as iwi and sector groups; and
- d) **agree** that the Ministry undertake consultation under section 209 of the Education and Training Act 2020 on your behalf, with the boards of all state and state integrated schools whose rolls might be affected by 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** 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.

We also recommend that you:

- f) **agree** 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.

☒ Agree ☐ Disagree


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

16/03/2023


Hon Jan Tinetti
Minister of Education

26/03/2023

Background

- 1 Warkworth is in the Mahurangi Rodney catchment of the National Education Growth Plan (NEGP).
- 2 The satellite town of Warkworth is a rural node in the northern part of the Auckland region serving a large catchment. Significant residential and employment growth is expected over the next 30 years with around 1,100 hectares earmarked as future urban land. This could accommodate approximately 7,500 additional dwellings and an additional 20,000 people over the next 30 years.
- 3 To cater for the long-term population projections, the NEGP identified that at least two new schools would be required in Warkworth. The proposed school, Warkworth North Primary School, is the first of these two new schools.

Current schooling network

- 4 Warkworth is a defined area with currently only one other state contributing primary school offering Year 1-6 primary education, Warkworth School. Year 7-13 education is provided at Mahurangi College.
- 5 Warkworth School had a July 2022 roll of 506 students. The school is on a split site, operating a Year 1-3 junior site and a Year 4-6 senior site.
- 6 The school currently has a capacity of 848 student places and has been master planned to accommodate 1,050 students. It is anticipated that Warkworth School will be able to accommodate future growth until 2026. The school implemented an enrolment scheme in March 2017, which has enabled it to reduce enrolments from outside of its catchment.
- 7 Other schools drawing students from the Warkworth area include Horizon School, a Year 1–13 state integrated Christian school located in Snells Beach, approximately 9.2km away from Warkworth.

The proposed school - Warkworth North Primary School

- 8 It is proposed that the new school would open as a co-educational, Year 1-6 contributing state primary school. The school would initially have 400 student places and learning support specialist provision would be included.
- 9 A 4-hectare site at 100 Woodcocks Road, Warkworth has been purchased and it is proposed that the new school is located on this site.
- 10 The proposed opening date of Warkworth North Primary School is Term 1, 2026.
- 11 If the school is established, we will work with the establishment board to explore options for the provision of a Māori Medium pathway and the creation of dual curriculum (The New Zealand Curriculum and Te Marautanga o Aotearoa) within the school for Years 1-6.

Consultation

- 12 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, in your opinion, be affected by the proposed establishment, under section 209 of the Act.
- 13 We have identified the following schools whose rolls might be affected by the proposed establishment:

School	Year levels
Warkworth School	Year 1-6
Horizon School	Year 1-13
Wellsford School	Year 1–8
Ahuroa School	Year 1-8
Kaipara Flats School	Year 1-8
Matakana School	Year 1-6
Snells Beach Primary School	Year 1-6

- 14 We would also consult with other schools in the wider network and sector groups, such as New Zealand Educational Institute (NZEI) and Auckland Primary Principals Association (APPA).
- 15 Local iwi, as identified by our te Tiriti processes, will be engaged as part of this consultation. This will help form enduring relationships as the school is established.
- 16 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.

Risks

- 17 The establishment of the new contributing primary school is strongly recommended as part of our response to growth and demand in the school network. If the school is not established, it is likely that by 2026 the growth will be such that we will not be able to provide accommodation for all primary aged students within this catchment.

Financial implications

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

Next steps

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

Proactive Release

- 21 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

Proactively Released

Proactively Released

Hon Jan Tinetti

Minister of Internal Affairs
Minister for Women
Associate Minister of Education



Chris Penk
Member of Parliament for Kaipara ki Mahurangi
Parliament Buildings
Wellington

Tēnā koe Chris

I am pleased to inform you that I am beginning consultation on the proposed establishment of a new Year 1-6 contributing primary school in Warkworth, Auckland. The proposed school would initially cater for up to 400 students.

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

I expect this consultation to be undertaken in 2023, with a detailed report back to me following this. I will then be in a position to make a decision about establishing the school.

If you have any questions or concerns about the process, please contact Theresa Webb at 9(2)(a)

Nāku noa, nā

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

Hon Jan Tinetti
Minister of Education

Hon Jan Tinetti

Minister of Internal Affairs
Minister for Women
Associate Minister of Education



Hon Kelvin Davis
Member of Parliament for Te Tai Tokerau
Parliament Buildings
Wellington

Tēnā koe Kelvin

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Nāku noa, nā

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

Hon Jan Tinetti
Minister of Education