

BUDGET SENSITIVE



Briefing Note: Further Information and Talking Points about proposed Pacific Education Initiatives in Budget 2021

To:	Hon Aupito William Sio, Associate Minister of Education		
Cc:	Hon Chris Hipkins, Minister of Education		
Date:	22 January 2021	Priority:	High
Security Level:	In Confidence- Budget Sensitive	METIS No:	1248826
Key Contact:	Dr Andrea Schöllmann, Deputy Secretary, Education System Policy	DDI:	04 463 8097
Messaging seen by Communications team:	NA	Round Robin:	No

Purpose of paper

The purpose of this paper is to provide you with further information and talking points about proposed Pacific Education initiatives within the overall Vote: Education package for Budget 2021.

Summary

- The Ministry of Education has been undertaking work to develop an overall Vote: Education package within Budget 2021. As part of this work, you have indicated your interest in progressing three Budget 21 initiatives across Vote Education [redacted] to support Pacific Education [METIS 1244788 refers]:

- Supporting Pacific bilingual and immersion education in schooling
- Deliver sustained Professional Learning and Development to embed Tapasā

- [redacted]

Proactive Release

We recommend you:

Agree that this Briefing will not be proactively released at this time, as Budget decisions have not been made

 Agree / Disagree



Dr Andrea Schöllmann
Deputy Secretary
Education System Policy

22/01/2021



Hon Aupito William Sio
Associate Minister of Education



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Background

1. The Ministry of Education has been undertaking work to develop an overall Vote: Education package within Budget 2021. As part of this work, you have indicated your interest in progressing three Budget 21 initiatives across Vote Education [REDACTED] to support Pacific Education [METIS 1244788 refers]:
 - a. Supporting Pacific bilingual and immersion education in schooling
 - b. Deliver sustained Professional Learning and Development to embed Tapasā
 - c. [REDACTED]
2. These three initiatives were outlined in the letter from the Minister of Education to the Minister of Finance around Budget 21 priorities.
3. A summary of these three initiatives is outlined below:

Initiative	<i>Supporting Pacific bilingual and immersion education in schooling</i>	<i>Deliver sustained Professional Learning and Development to embed Tapasā</i>
Description	This initiative supports Pacific learners to learn in cultural and linguistic supportive environments by providing the first system-level investment in Pacific bilingual and immersion units in schools to meet persistent operating and resourcing needs, to maintain quality provision. This initiative will purchase targeted funding and support through an additional operational grant component, development of further curriculum resources and a targeted professional learning and development programme on Pacific bilingual and immersion education for teachers. This supports the sustainability of current provision of a highly valued community education pathway across 23 schools, serving approximately 1500 learners.	This initiative provides funding to purchase the design and delivery of a targeted, sustained professional learning and development (PLD) programme for teachers and leaders in early learning settings and schools with high numbers of Pacific learners to embed the principles and approach of Tapasā, a cultural competencies framework for teachers and leaders of Pacific learners.
Vote	Vote Education	Vote Education
4 year funding-	Four year funding total (OPEX)- \$20.218m	
	Four year funding total (CAPEX)- \$0.644m	

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Expected Reach	Approximately 23 schools, serving approximately 1500 learners.
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4. You are scheduled to have a bilateral meeting with the Minister of Finance, Hon Grant Robertson, on Budget 21 on Tuesday 26 January, in your capacity as Minister for Pacific Peoples. As part of the bilateral meeting, you are expecting to discuss the Pacific Wellbeing Strategy.
5. Talking points to support your attendance at the meeting are outlined in Annex 1.

Annexes

Annex 1: Talking Points on Pacific Education Budget priorities

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Annex 1: Talking Points on Pacific Education Budget priorities

Pacific Education priorities

- My overall priority for Pacific Education in Budget 21 is to ensure that all our investment in education supports the needs of Pacific learners and families and the implementation of the Action Plan for Pacific Education in the evolving COVID-19 context. This will help us ensure Pacific wellbeing is supported. Every dollar we spend has to support Pacific learners.
- More specifically, there are some emerging priorities for Pacific learners and families in education that are not addressed in existing Education Budget commitments.
- To address these specific issues, I am proposing a package of three initiatives to:
 - support Pacific bilingual and immersion education in schools, by providing operational funding for existing bilingual and immersion units
 - ensure Pacific learners receive culturally responsive teaching, by delivering a sustained Professional Learning and Development programme that embeds Tapasā, the cultural competencies framework for leaders and teachers of Pacific learners

- I see these three initiatives as contributing significantly to Goals 1, [REDACTED] and 4 of Lalanga Fou, our shared vision for Pacific Peoples in Aotearoa.

Supporting Pacific bilingual and immersion education in schooling

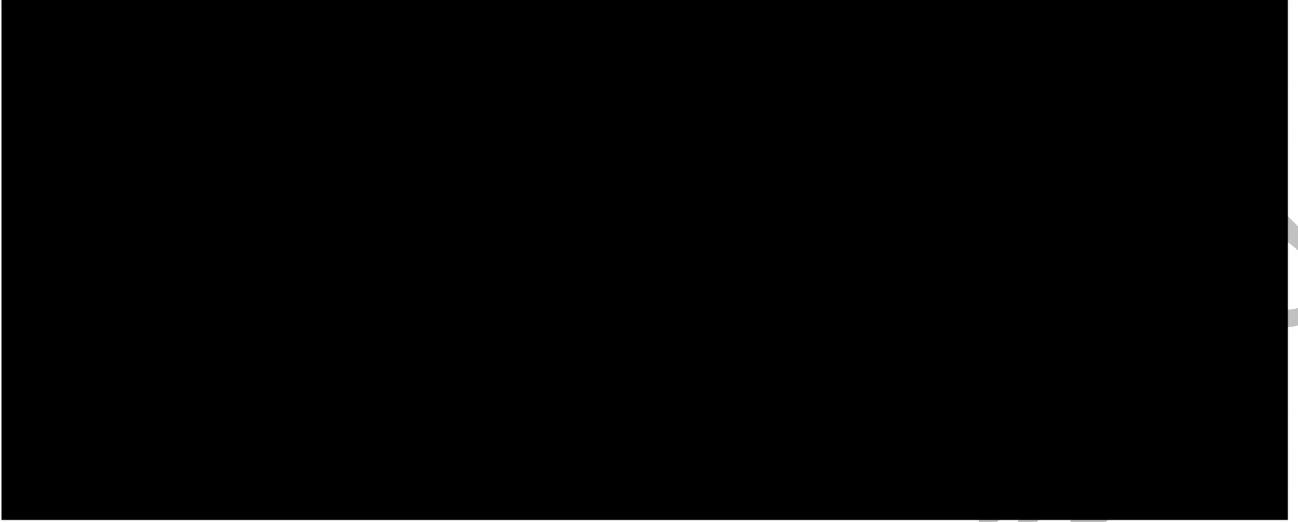
- Pacific bilingual and immersion units in schools have been built from the ground up by Pacific communities and the education sector. These units provide a beneficial learning pathway to Pacific learners and families but operate with no additional funding. I don't think this is fair.
- I am proposing an initiative to provide the first operational investment into the 23 schools with existing Pacific bilingual and immersion units.
- This funding already exists for te reo Māori language provision in schools but has never been in place of Pacific bilingual and immersion provision in schools.
- This initiative will purchase targeted funding and support through an additional operational grant component, development of further curriculum resources and a targeted professional learning and development programme on Pacific bilingual and immersion education for teachers.
- This new funding would address the lack of funding in these units currently. Providing funding supports the sustainability of current provision and shows that the Government values this education pathway, which strongly embeds identity, language and culture.
- This initiative strongly aligns to Goal 1 of Lalanga Fou of Thriving Pacific Languages, Cultures and Identities, by investing in and supporting Pacific bilingual education provision to continue.

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- This initiative seeks \$20.218m over four years as the minimum viable option

Deliver sustained Professional Learning and Development to embed Tapasā

- I have heard from some Pacific communities that some teachers do a great job teaching Pacific learners but some Pacific learners are still not experiencing culturally responsive teaching that supports them to succeed in education.
- Some teachers and leaders have asked for more targeted support to develop their competencies in teaching Pacific learners and embedding the Tapasā framework, the cultural competencies framework for leaders and teachers of Pacific learners.
- I am proposing to deliver a targeted, sustained professional learning and development (PLD) programme for teachers and leaders that will support them to embed the principles and approach of Tapasā. This will be for teachers and educators in both early learning services and schools.
- This will support teachers and educators to effectively teach Pacific learners and support Pacific learners to have a quality education.
- This initiative contributes to the wellbeing of Pacific learners by ensuring learners experience culturally responsive teaching and feel safe in their learning environments.
- This strongly aligns to Goals 1 and 4 of Lalanga Fou, by ensuring Pacific learners receive a quality education that reflects their identity, language and culture and that allows them to succeed as Pacific learners.



Proactively Releas