




23 July 2021



Tēnā koe 

Thank you for your email of 28 June 2021 to the Ministry of Education, requesting the following information:

1. *Any directives, guidance or recommendations sent **or available** to **all** Ministry of Education staff regarding the use of Te [Reo] Māori in internal and external communications by anyone in a **leadership position** at the Ministry of Education in 2020 or 2021. ‘**Leadership position**’ as referring to Deputy Secretaries and the Secretary for Education.*

Your request has been considered under the Official Information Act 1982 (the Act).

The Ministry is committed to promoting te reo Māori and its place in New Zealand society. As part of this commitment, it is important that we use te reo Māori authentically and appropriately in our communications. To support this, the Ministry makes available to its employees a range of resources and guidance on the use of te reo Māori in our communications.

I am providing you information from six webpages available to all Ministry staff on our intranet, *Te Tāhuhu*, regarding the use of te reo Māori in internal and external communications. This information is attached in **Appendix A**.

Please note that Document One, The Ministry’s Style Guide, is provided as an excerpt as allowed by section 16(e) of the Act, with the remainder of this document out of scope. Documents Two through Six are extracts of webpages on *Te Tāhuhu* which provide Ministry staff with general resources to support the use of te reo Māori in both internal and external communications.

I am refusing your request for any directives, guidance or recommendations sent to all Ministry staff regarding the use of te reo Māori in internal and external communications under section 18(e) of the Act, as the alleged information does not exist. There have not been any communications sent to all staff regarding the use of te reo Māori from Deputy Secretaries or the Secretary for Education.

Further to this, I refer you to the Minister of Education’s response to Written Parliamentary Question (26794, 2021) which also answers this part of your request.

Please note, the Ministry now proactively publishes OIA responses on our website. As such, we may publish this response on our website after five working days. Your name and contact details will be removed.

OIA: 1264236

National Office, Mātauranga House, 33 Bowen Street, Wellington 6011

PO Box 1666, Wellington 6140. Phone: +64 4 463 8000 Fax: +64 4 463 8001

Thank you again for your email. You have the right to ask an Ombudsman to review this decision. You can do this by writing to [info@ombudsman.parliament.nz](mailto:info@ombudsman.parliament.nz) or Office of the Ombudsman, PO Box 10152, Wellington 6143.

Nāku noa, nā



Jan Breakwell  
**Acting Deputy Secretary**  
**Strategy, Planning and Governance**