



19 August 2021



Tēnā koe 

Thank you for your email of 24 July 2021 to the Ministry of Education, requesting the following information:

1. *What is the amount of money paid extra to schools for Māori students.*
2. *Total dollars amount per year for the last 5 years and the amount of Māori students per year for the last 5 years.*
3. *The individual or theoretical additional amount paid per enrolled Māori student each year over the last 5 years.*
4. *What is the total amount paid to Kōhanga Reo early child hood centres per year over the last 5 years and the number of children attending these centres.*
5. *What is the total amount paid to other kindergartens or early child hood centres per year over the last 5 years and the number of children attending these centres.*

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

I have interpreted your request as referring to resourcing paid to schools or Early Childhood Education (ECE) services to support their normal operations.

The Ministry supports school resourcing through operational grant funding. This is made up of many components to support the unique needs of different schools. Each component's calculation relies on different variables to determine how much funding is paid to each school. However, none of these formulas involve student ethnicity. Therefore, I am refusing questions one, two, and three of your request under section 18(e) of the Act, as the documents alleged to contain the information requested do not exist.

Should you wish to find out which components make up operational grants for schools and how they are calculated, further information can be found on the Ministry's website at [education.govt.nz/school/funding-and-financials/resourcing/operational-funding/](https://education.govt.nz/school/funding-and-financials/resourcing/operational-funding/).

Additional information about other forms of resourcing schools receive from the Ministry can be also be found on the Ministry's website at [education.govt.nz/school/funding-and-financials/](https://education.govt.nz/school/funding-and-financials/).

I am refusing questions four and five of your request under section 18(d) of the Act, as the information you have requested is publicly available. ECE providers receive subsidy funding from the Ministry. The Ministry publishes the early learning expenditure as a standard annual release on the Education Counts website, including breakdowns by service type. By making Early Learning Expenditure Tables publicly available, the Ministry aims to increase transparency around spending. This information can be found at [educationcounts.govt.nz/statistics/finances](https://educationcounts.govt.nz/statistics/finances).

A table of total funding per year by service type can be found in the 'ECE Expenditure' spreadsheet found at this link, specifically in sheet 'EXP5'.

Additionally, the Ministry also regularly publishes the number of children attending ECE, as measured by enrolments, via the Education Counts website in the following link: [educationcounts.govt.nz/statistics/participation](https://educationcounts.govt.nz/statistics/participation). Within this link, the spreadsheet 'Time Series Data: Enrolments in ECE 2000 - 2020' details the 'Service Type' and contains number of enrolled children per year by service type.

Should you wish to find out more about ECE funding, further information can be found on the Ministry's website at [education.govt.nz/early-childhood/funding-and-data/funding-handbooks/ece-funding-handbook/](https://education.govt.nz/early-childhood/funding-and-data/funding-handbooks/ece-funding-handbook/).

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.

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



David Jagger  
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**Evidence, Data and Knowledge**