



4 November 2022

9(2)(a)

Tēnā koe 9(2)(a)

Thank you for your email of 23 September 2022 to the Ministry of Education (the Ministry) requesting the following information under the Official Information Act 1982 (the Act):

- *we'd like to request data for the amounts of money schools are receiving as a result of the changes, both the increases and decreases.*
- *I understand if the names of schools need to be kept secret as you mentioned, so without the names and just the figures would suffice.*

On 6 October 2022, you emailed the Ministry and clarified your request to the following:

- *Ideally we'd like to see increases and decreases for all schools.*
- *If names cannot be included for privacy reasons can the previous decile number of the school be included and region?*
- *And if possible the new equity index number.*

On 27 October 2022 it was agreed that we would provide you with the data for schools and kura estimated to receive more funding in 2023 aggregated into bands, and for those that are receiving transition support we will provide individual amounts, broken down by school decile.

The Ministry provides schools and kura with equity funding, in addition to their core operational funding, so they can work in different ways to reduce the impact socio-economic factors have on student achievement. We currently use the decile system to allocate equity funding and to identify schools that would benefit from additional resources.

A lot has changed since the decile system was introduced nearly 30 years ago. We have access to improved data and a better understanding of the socio-economic factors that have the most impact on student achievement. We have used this information to develop the Equity Index (EQI). From 1 January 2023, the EQI will be used to determine a school's level of equity funding.

The Ministry will be providing transition support for the small number of schools and kura that will receive less funding under the EQI. This means that for the 2023 year no school or kura will receive less per-student equity funding due to the EQI and Isolation Index changes. From 2024, any reduction in funding will be capped at 5% per annum of a kura or school's 2022 operational grant, to make sure funding is phased out over time.

Please refer to **Appendix A** attached for the information requested. Please note, the amounts provided are estimates of the potential impact that schools and kura may face.

We will not be able to provide the actual impacts until after the 2023 year is complete, as school rolls are subject to change throughout the year.

The actual difference between the 2022 and 2023 equity-based funding may differ from the amounts provided. These amounts are estimates for the purpose of determining eligibility for additional transition support. The amounts provided as part of the transition support funding reflect the actual funding that will be paid to those schools and kura in 2023 to support their transition to the EQI. As noted above, these may not reflect the actual movement between years.

Further information about the EQI can be found here:

<https://www.education.govt.nz/our-work/changes-in-education/equity-index/>

Please note, the Ministry now proactively publishes official information 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. If you have further questions, please feel free to contact our media team in the first instance at media.team@education.govt.nz.



Helen Hurst
Chief Operating Officer
Te Mahau | Te Pae Aronui (Operations and Integration)