



25 June 2020



Tēnā koe 

Thank you for your email of 12 May 2020 to the Ministry of Education requesting the following information:

- *The schedule of the number of devices (laptops, tablets etc) allocated to schools, including the school name and type, decile and roll.*

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

I am providing you with a spreadsheet, attached as **Appendix A** that details the number of devices dispatched to students by the Ministry broken down by school as at 29 May 2020.

For clarity, a school's decile ranking was not the main criteria for sending computer devices to students. The priority for Ministry-sourced computers was, in order, Year 12, Year 13, and then Year 11 students – and within each of those years, Decile 1, Decile 2, Decile 3, and so on through the rankings. These priorities reflected the Government's desire to minimise disruption for learners working towards a qualification, and the effectiveness of online teaching and learning for this age group.

Early learning services, schools and kura temporarily closed as part of the response to the COVID-19 pandemic, and teachers shifted to leading learning from a distance from 15 April 2020. The goal of the Government and the Ministry of Education was for students to have at least one channel available for distance learning while they are away from school during the COVID-19 response. Because not every student can connect with their school for on-line learning, we provided alternative distance learning options to support schools to work with their students.

On 8 April, the Government announced a package worth \$87 million, which included increasing the number of students who have internet access and devices, delivering hard copy packs of materials for different year levels, and funding two television channels to broadcast education-related content. Progress with these initiatives is described here: <http://education.govt.nz/covid-19/distance-learning/internet-access-computers-and-printed-learning-resources/>.

Reflecting that increasing the number of students with internet access and devices was not the only learning channel available, as at 4 June 2020, over 270,000 hard packs of materials—printed materials and other equipment students need to learn from home – had been distributed. These hard packs covered the early learning, through to schooling and senior secondary in both English and Māori Medium. As at the same date, more than 3,300,000 people had tuned into our two television channels.

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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



Ellen MacGregor-Reid  
**Deputy Secretary**  
**Early Learning and Student Achievement**