

AIDE MEMOIRE

To: Rt Hon Jacinda Ardern, Prime Minister, Minister for Child Poverty Reduction
Hon Chris Hipkins, Minister of Education
Hon Tracey Martin, Minister for Children

From: Damian Edwards, Associate Deputy Secretary, Education System Policy
Kristie Carter, Director Child Poverty Unit, Department of Prime Minister and Cabinet

Date: 07 August 2019

Subject: School Lunch Programme: identified schools for implementation in Term 1, 2020

Attached: List of schools selected to receive invitation to participate in school lunch programme during Term 1, 2020

Purpose

1. This aide-memoire identifies a total 43 schools and kura which Ministry of Education officials intend to invite to participate in the school lunch programme (the programme) during Term 1, 2020, and is provided to support decisions about where the programme will be announced.

Key messages

1. The Child and Youth Wellbeing Strategy, and the school lunch programme, are expected to be announced on 29 August 2019. The Ministers for Child Poverty Reduction and Children have sought a list of schools that are likely to be participating in the programme during Term 1, 2020, to identify locations for the launch.
2. The Ministry of Education has identified 43 schools (total, see attachment) to participate in the school lunch programme during Term 1, 2020, including the ten schools referred to in METIS 1199575. The Ministry has not yet confirmed any schools are willing and able to participate, and expects to begin confirming schools' participation in late August.

Background


3. The Ministers for Child Poverty Reduction and Children have sought a list of schools that are likely to be participating in the programme during Term 1, 2020 as a means to identify potential locations for the proposed announcement of the Child and Youth Wellbeing Strategy, including the school lunch programme. The announcement is expected to take place on 29 August 2019.
4. The Ministry of Education has previously notified you of ten potential schools in the Hawke's Bay/Tairāwhiti and Bay of Plenty/Waiariki Education regions for invitation to the school lunch programme [METIS 1199575 refers]. These schools are located in 9(2), and were selected in accordance with the proposal taken to Cabinet [CAB-19-MIN-0329 refers].

Additional schools to begin during Term 1, 2020

5. The Ministry has identified an additional 33 schools and kura in the Hawke's Bay/Tairāwhiti and Bay of Plenty/Waiariki Education regions that will be invited to participate in the programme during Term 1, 2020.

6. Subject to further suitability checks and confirmation of schools' willingness to participate, the 33 additional schools identified include:

9(2)(f)(iv)



7. As with schools identified for the first phase, the Ministry has consulted with its regional directors to generate the above list. The Ministry has ensured selection considered a range of rural and urban schools, roll sizes, relationships to existing food programmes, and natural geographic clusters (to facilitate a community-based approach).
8. Although the Ministry has yet to discuss this proposal with any of the identified schools, regional directors are confident that these schools would be willing and suitable participants in the programme. Confirmation of these schools' suitability and willingness to participate is expected to be obtained in late August at the earliest.
9. Once participation is confirmed, the Ministry will work to implement the programme in these schools as quickly as is reasonably feasible during Term 1, having primary regard to operational considerations. In practice, this means the additional schools will receive the programme on a "rolling basis", i.e. not all of the additional schools would receive the programme from day one, Term 1.

Next Steps

10. We will provide the Minister of Education with further advice in September 2019, including an evaluation framework, an implementation plan, and a communications and engagement plan.

Proactive Release

11. This aide-memoire will not be proactively released until after future policy and investment decisions are made, likely through Budget 2021, in order to preserve the integrity of the programme's design processes.

Attachment:

9(2)(f)(iv)