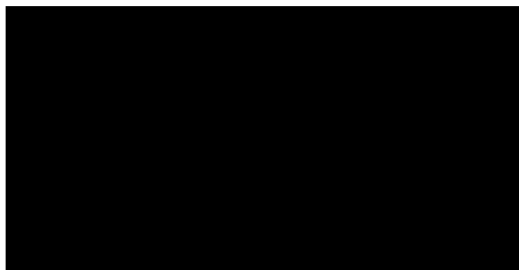




26 FEB 2018



Thank you for your email to the Ministry of Education dated 26 January 2018, requesting the following information:

- *I would like to find out the 20 schools with the most stand-downs in 2017,*
- *The 20 schools with the most suspensions in 2017,*
- *The 20 schools with the most exclusions and expulsions in 2017.*

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

Please find the data tables attached as **Appendix A** showing the 20 schools with the most stand-downs, suspensions, exclusions and expulsions.

Schools with less than five expulsions have been excluded from the data tables under section 9(2)(a) of the Act to protect the privacy of individual persons and to avoid identifying students.

### Definitions of measures used

A stand-down is the removal of a student for a period of up to five days, where the decision is made by the Principal.

A suspension is the formal removal of a student from a state or state integrated school on a temporary basis until the school Board of Trustees (the Board) decides the final outcome at a meeting. The Board can then either:

- lift the suspension (with or without conditions),
- extend the suspension, or
- exclude the student (if under 16) or expel the student (if aged 16 years or over).

Exclusions and expulsions are subsets of suspension where an enrolment is terminated. If the student is aged under 16, the Board may decide to exclude the student from the school, with the requirement that the student enrolls elsewhere.

This decision should be arrived at in only the most serious cases. If the student is aged 16 or over, the board may decide to expel him or her from the school, and the student may or may not enrol at another school. Again, this decision should be arrived at only in the most serious cases. Excluded or expelled students may face difficulties in enrolling in other school.

## Considerations when interpreting the data

Stand-downs and suspensions are not measures of student behaviour so much as they are measures of schools' reactions to behaviours. While one school may opt to suspend a student over a particular incident, another school may not. The number of these incidents should not be used as a proxy measure for total student behaviour.

You can find further information about suspensions and expulsions, including age standardised data on the Ministry's Education Counts website at: [www.educationcounts.govt.nz/statistics/indicators/main/student-engagement-participation/Stand-downs-suspensions-exclusions-expulsions](http://www.educationcounts.govt.nz/statistics/indicators/main/student-engagement-participation/Stand-downs-suspensions-exclusions-expulsions)

You may be interested to know that Ministry helps schools manage behaviour through initiatives such as Positive Behaviour for Learning (PB4L), special behavioural education support and anti-bullying schemes. As a result, national rates of suspensions, stand-downs, exclusions and expulsions are at their lowest, having nearly halved since records began in 2000.

PB4L gives students, teachers, families and whānau the tools they need to address problem behaviour, improve children's wellbeing and increase educational achievement. Many schools involved with PB4L have reported a dramatic drop in suspensions and an increase in student achievement. By strengthening relationships and creating more positive home and school environments, we aim to remove barriers to engagement and improve students' chances to achieve at school and beyond.

The New Zealand Council for Educational Research evaluated PB4L School-Wide in 408 schools between 2010 and 2013 and reported overall improvements in behaviour, including decreases in stand-downs, suspensions, exclusions and expulsions, and decreases in class disruption. The evaluation also showed an increase in positive behaviours such as being on task and engagement with learning. You can find more about PB4L at <http://pb4l.tki.org.nz/>.

Thank you again for your email. If you have further questions please contact our media team in the first instance at [media@education.govt.nz](mailto:media@education.govt.nz).

If you are unsatisfied with my response, you have the right to ask an Ombudsman to review it. 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.

Yours sincerely



Katrina Casey  
**Deputy Secretary**  
**Sector Enablement and Support**



## APPENDIX A

### Top 20 schools with the most suspensions, stand-downs, exclusions and expulsions in 2017

\*Schools that had less than 5 expulsions have been excluded to protect the privacy of students involved

#### Exclusions

School	Total
Haeata Community Campus	21
Southern Cross Campus	20
Aorere College	12
Onehunga High School	11
Whangarei Boys' High School	11
Kamo High School	10
Avondale College	10
Tauranga Boys' College	9
Putaruru College	9
Palmerston North Boys' High School	9
Awatapu College	9
Macleans College	8
Taradale High School	7
Tamatea High School	7
Rosehill College	7
Pukekohe High School	7
Tarawera High School	6
Southland Boys' High School	6
Massey High School	6
Whanganui City College	6
Mairehau High School	6
Aurora College	6
Tauranga Intermediate	6
Fairfield College	6
Cambridge High School	6
Orewa College	6
Tamaki College	6
Hastings Intermediate	6
Mangere College	6
Fraser High School	6
Kaikorai Valley College	6
Hutt Valley High School	6
Tikipunga High School	6
Katikati College	6
Rutherford College	6
Mokoia Intermediate	6
Murupara Area School	6

#### Expulsions

School	Total
Massey High School	7
St Bedes College	6
Tangaroa College	5

#### Stand-downs

School	Total
Onehunga High School	179
Manurewa High School	155
Aorere College	138
Feilding High School	128
Rosehill College	124
Kamo High School	119
Fairfield College	116
Fraser High School	114
Haeata Community Campus	114
Mangere College	110
Aurora College	110
Otahuhu College	109
Massey High School	102
Melville High School	95
Tamaki College	95
Mt Roskill Grammar	94
James Cook High School	93
Papakura High School	91
Shirley School	90
Whanganui High School	87

#### Suspensions

School	Total
Southern Cross Campus	45
Haeata Community Campus	40
South Otago High School	35
Rotorua Girls' High School	35
Massey High School	30
Nga Taiatea Wharekura	27
Tauranga Boys' College	27
Windley School	27
Whangaparaoa College	26
Wairoa College	25
Tamaki College	23
Kerikeri High School	23
Kamo High School	22
Taradale High School	22
Pakuranga College	22
Tarawera High School	21
Katikati College	21
Macleans College	20
Te Kauwhata College	20
Aurora College	19