



- 1 MAY 2018

Thank you for your email of 29 March 2018 to the Ministry of Education requesting the following information:

1. *The top 10 New Zealand schools, for each primary and high school, which recorded the most exclusions and expulsions for 2017? In Auckland? And in west Auckland?*
2. *The top 10 New Zealand schools, for each primary and high school, which recorded the most suspension rate, and stand down rate for 2017? Also the top 10 for each West Auckland schools, and Auckland schools in that period.*
3. *A list of the top 10 drugs, in its order found in high schools, and in primary schools in 2017?*
4. *A list of the top 10 weapons found in its order in high schools, and in primary schools in 2017?*

Your request has been considered under the Official Information Act 1982 (the Act) and I have responded to each of your questions below:

Question one

Please find the data tables attached as **Appendix one**, showing the top 10 New Zealand schools, for each primary and high school, which recorded the most exclusions and expulsions for 2017, in Auckland and in west Auckland.

Definitions of measures used

A **stand-down** is the removal of a student for a period of up to five days in a school term, where the decision is made by the Principal. A student may only be stood-down for a total of 10 school days in a year.

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

It's important to note that suspensions, expulsions and exclusions are also measures of a school's reaction to the behaviour. 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 the following link.

www.educationcounts.govt.nz/statistics/indicators/main/student-engagement-participation/stand-downs-suspensions-exclusions-expulsions

We support early learning services, schools and Kura to develop environments that promote positive behaviours and reduce the level of challenging behaviours. Our Positive Behaviour for Learning (PB4L) programme provides guidance on bullying prevention, violence prevention, de-escalation and training for schools. You can read about this service in more detail at: <http://pb4l.tki.org.nz/PB4L-School-Wide/Support-material>.

The *Teaching for Positive Behaviour* guide supports teachers to understand and use effective practices that enhance students' behaviour, engagement, participation, and learning. The school-based Resource Teachers: Learning and Behaviour (RTLb) service enables clusters of schools to develop whole school behaviour management strategies together.

Our Learning Support professionals work specifically with children and young people with higher levels of challenging behaviour, including those whose behaviour management plans include the possibility of physical restraint. Learning Support professionals deliver a workshop, *Understanding Behaviour, Responding Safely*, for schools concerned with behaviour management. In some cases, our local office can also arrange specialist guidance and instruction in physical restraint tailored to the individual needs of a student. In August 2017, we published the resource: *Guidelines for Registered Schools in New Zealand on the Use of Physical Restraint*. This resource can be downloaded from our website at: <http://education.govt.nz/assets/Documents/School/Managing-and-supporting-students/Guidance-for-New-Zealand-Schools-on-Behaviour-Mgmt-to-Minimise-Physical-....pdf>.

Question two

The datasets for 2017 are yet to be verified and finalised and we anticipate the report will be available in July 2018. As such, I am refusing this request under section 18(f) of the Act, as the information cannot be made available without substantial collation and research. Once the 2017 is published online, we will be able to consider requests for further break-downs.

Questions three and four

Please note, we have interpreted **questions three and four** as being the top 10 primary and high schools with the highest number of stand-downs, suspensions, expulsions and expulsions for the behaviour "substance abuse" and for the behaviour "weapons use." These behaviours are not broken down further into drug or weapon type. As such, this I am refusing this request as under section 18(e) of the Act as the information requested does not exist.

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@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 or Office of the Ombudsman, PO Box 10152, Wellington 6143.

Yours sincerely



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OIA 1117397

**Exclusions and expulsions 2017
National, Auckland and West Auckland ranking.**

Question: The top 10 New Zealand schools, for each primary and high school, which recorded the most exclusions and expulsions for 2017? In Auckland? And in west Auckland?

Table 1 - Ranking of schools by number of exclusion cases in 2017

New Zealand				Auckland (2)				West Auckland (3)			
Rank	School #	School	No of Exclusions	School #	School	No of Exclusions	School #	School	No of Exclusions	School #	No of Exclusions
Primary Schools (4)											
Primary											
1	1832	Mokoia Intermediate	6	1523	Takanini School		1471	Rosebank School (Auckland)	5		x
2	2570	Hastings Intermediate	6	1247	Clayton Park School		1290	Glenharon School	x		x
3	1990	Tauranga Intermediate	6	6944	Randwick Park School		1311	Henderson Valley School	x		x
4	1823	Melville Intermediate	5	1428	Papatoetoe Intermediate		1307	Henderson Intermediate	x		x
5	1523	Takanini School	5	1422	Papakura Intermediate		1521	Swanson School	x		x
6	2581	Ilinster Intermediate	5	1424	Kereru Park Campus		1457	Rangeview Intermediate	x		x
7	2001	Te Awamutu Intermediate	5	1215	Sir Douglas Bader Intermediate School		1536	Tirimoana School	x		x
8	1715	Fairfield Intermediate	5	1295	Glenfield Intermediate		N/A	N/A	x		N/A
9	2118	Newfield Park School	x	1228	Birkdale Intermediate		N/A	N/A	x		N/A
10	1247	Clayton Park School	x	1572	Whenuapai School		N/A	N/A	x		N/A
Composite Schools (4)											
Composite											
1	704	Haeata Community Campus	21	452	Southern Cross Campus		713	Middle School West Auckland	20		x
2	452	Southern Cross Campus	20	713	Middle School West Auckland		N/A	N/A	x		N/A
3	658	Murupara Area School	6	690	South Auckland Middle School		N/A	N/A	x		N/A
4	11	Opononi Area School	x	630	Te Kura Maori o Nga Tapuwae		N/A	N/A	x		N/A
5	1865	Te Wharekura o Maniapoto	x	N/A	N/A		N/A	N/A	N/A		N/A
6	713	Middle School West Auckland	x	N/A	N/A		N/A	N/A	N/A		N/A
7	683	Ao Tawhiti Unlimited Discovery	x	N/A	N/A		N/A	N/A	N/A		N/A
8	12	Tauraroa Area School	x	N/A	N/A		N/A	N/A	N/A		N/A
9	1701	Cambridge Middle School	x	N/A	N/A		N/A	N/A	N/A		N/A
10	110	Mercury Bay Area School	x	N/A	N/A		N/A	N/A	N/A		N/A
Secondary Schools (4)											
Secondary											
1	96	Aorere College	13	96	Aorere College		78	Avondale College	13		10
2	86	Onehunga High School	11	86	Onehunga High School		40	Rutherford College	11		6
3	15	Whangarei Boys' High School	11	78	Avondale College		43	Massey High School	10		6
4	13	Kamo High School	10	103	Pukekohe High School		45	Henderson High School	8		5
5	78	Avondale College	10	41	Macleans College		83	Kelston Boys' High School	8		x
6	187	Whanganui City College	9	57	Tamaki College		46	Liston College	7		x
7	494	Putaruru College	9	102	Rosehill College		N/A	N/A	7		N/A
8	198	Awatapu College	9	91	Mangere College		N/A	N/A	6		N/A
9	202	Palmerston North Boys' High School	9	40	Rutherford College		N/A	N/A	6		N/A
10	121	Tauranga Boys' College	9	43	Massey High School		N/A	N/A	6		N/A

Table 2 - Ranking of schools by number of expulsion cases in 2017 (composite schools)

There were no expulsion cases in West Auckland in 2017

New Zealand			Auckland (2)			
Rank	School #	School	No of Expulsions	School #	School	No of Expulsions
Composite (4)						
1	11	Opononi Area School	x	424	Michael Park School	x
2	394	The Catlins Area School	x	452	Southern Cross Campus	x
3	429	Excellere College	x	N/A	N/A	N/A
4	424	Michael Park School	x	N/A	N/A	N/A
5	310	Oxford Area School	x	N/A	N/A	N/A
6	704	Haeata Community Campus	x	N/A	N/A	N/A
7	110	Mercury Bay Area School	x	N/A	N/A	N/A
8	335	Middleton Grange School	x	N/A	N/A	N/A
9	452	Southern Cross Campus	x	N/A	N/A	N/A
10	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A

Table 3 - Ranking of schools by number of expulsion cases in 2017 (secondary schools)

New Zealand				Auckland (2)		West Auckland (3)		
Rank	School #	School	No of Expulsions	School #	School	No of Expulsions	School #	School
Secondary (4)								
1	43	Massey High School	7	43	Massey High School	7	43	Massey High School
2	315	St Bedes College	6	58	Tangaroa College	5	44	Waitakere College
3	58	Tangaroa College	5	57	Tamaki College	x	78	Avondale College
4	57	Tamaki College	x	59	Sacred Heart College (Auckland)	x	N/A	N/A
5	59	Sacred Heart College (Auckland)	x	6930	Botany Downs Secondary College	x	N/A	N/A
6	6930	Botany Downs Secondary College	x	69	Mt Albert Grammar School	x	N/A	N/A
7	69	Mt Albert Grammar School	x	104	Wesley College	x	N/A	N/A
8	14	Tikipunga High School	x	100	James Cook High School	x	N/A	N/A
9	104	Wesley College	x	80	Pakuranga College	x	N/A	N/A
10	100	James Cook High School	x	91	Mangere College	x	N/A	N/A

Caveats:

- 1) The data is live and therefore subject to change. It was extracted on 9th of April 2018 and includes incidences recorded up to this date;
- 2) The Regional Council area (Auckland Region) of the school each student was located in;
- 3) West Auckland includes Auckland- Waitakere Ranges; Auckland - Henderson Massey and Auckland Whau;
- 4) School Sector
 - o Primary - Full Primary, Contributing and Intermediate schools
 - o Composite - Composite (Years 1-15), Correspondence and Restricted Composite (Years 7-10) schools.
 - o Secondary - Secondary (Years 7-15) and (Years 9-15) schools.
 - o Special Schools are excluded from this analysis.
- 5) Exclusions includes students between 6 to 15 years old inclusive;
- 6) Expulsions includes students 16 years old and over.
- 7) A student may be excluded or expelled on more than one occasion.
- 8) Values less than five have been concealed under section 9(2)(a) of the Act to protect the privacy of students involved. For the same reason, no names of students will be released.