



- 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 enrols 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.

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

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

Katrina Casey

Deputy Secretary

Sector Enablement and Support

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

Question: The top 10 New Zealand schools, for each primary and high school, which recorded the most exclusions and expulsions for 2017? In Auckland? 10h 10/1

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No of Exclusions #			New Zealand Auckland (2)			Auckland (2)			West Auckland (3)	
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Table 2 - Ranking of schools by number of expulsion cases in 2017 (composite schools)

by number of expulsion cases in 2017 (composite schools)			No of Expulsions	S 00	×	(×	MA	AND	N/A	A/N	N/A	N/A	N/A	A/N	
sion cases in 201	17	Auckland (2)	School	Composite (4)	Michael Park School		N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A	
ndx	in 20:		School #		424	452	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A	
number of e	in West Auckland in 2017		No of Expulsions		×	×	×	×	×	×	×	×	×	N/A	
Table 2 - Ranking of schools by	There were no expulsion cases in M	New Zealand	School	Composite 🔑	Opononi Area School	The Catlins Area School	Excellere College	Michael Park School	Oxford Area School	Haeata Community Campus	Mercury Bay Area School	Middleton Grange School	Southern Cross Campus	N/A	
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Table	There		Rank		1	2	3	4	2	9	7	∞	თ	10	

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

		New Zealand			Auckland (2)		-	West Auckland (3)	(e) PL
Rank	School #	School	No of Expulsions	School #	School	No of Expulsions	School #	School	No of Expulsions
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П	43	Massey High School	7	43	Massey High School	1	43	Massev High School	7
2	315	St Bedes College	9	58	Tangaroa College	5	44	Waitakere College	>
ო	58	Tangaroa College	2	57	Tamaki College	S	78	Avondale College	< ×
4	57	Tamaki College	×	59	Sacred Heart College (Auckland)	×	N/A	N/A	N/A
Ŋ	59	Sacred Heart College (Auckland)	×	0869	Botany Downs Secondary College	×	N/A	N/A	N/A
Q	0869	Botany Downs Secondary College	×	69	Mt Albert Grammar School	×	N/A	N/A	N/A
7	69	Mt Albert Grammar School	×	104	Wesley College	×	N/A	N/A	A/N
∞	14	Tikipunga High School	×	100	James Cook High School	×	N/A	N/A	N/A
თ	104	Wesley College	×	80	Pakuranga College	×	N/A	N/A	N/A
10	100	James Cook High School	×	91	Mangere College	×	N/A	N/A	N/A
					7 7				

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
- Primary Full Primary, Contributing and Intermediate schools
- Composite Composite (Years 1-15), Correspondence and Restricted Composite (Years 7-10) schools. Secondary Secondary (Years 7-15) and (Years 9-15) schools.
 - - Special Schools are excluded from this analysis.
- Exclusions includes students between 6 to 15 years old inclusive;
 - Expulsions includes students 16 years old and over.
- A student may be excluded or expelled on more than one occasion.
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- 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