



Dear [REDACTED]

Thank you for your email of 24 March 2019, to the Ministry of Education requesting the following information:

- *Please provide all correspondence, minutes, decision and discussion documents, advice sought and given or any such records (including recollection of verbal communication) with regards to the provision of learning support provided to students at Paraparaumu Beach School by external providers.*
- *Information sought relates to communications involving the staff below for the period 01/02/2019 to the current date.*

*Ian Hill - Senior Adviser
Christine Wilson – Special Needs Division*

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

We have identified two documents within the scope of your request. These documents are itemised in the attached **Appendix One**.

In addition, I have attached two documents which record verbal communication as a response to this request. These documents are itemised in the attached **Appendix Two**.

I am releasing one document to you in full, and releasing three in part, withholding information under section 9(2)(a) and section 9(2)(ba)(i) of the Act.

I have identified no public interest considerations sufficient to outweigh the need to withhold this information at this time.

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

Yours sincerely



Katrina Casey
Deputy Secretary
Sector Enablement and Support

cc: Erika Ross, Director of Education for Wellington

Appendix One

No	Date	Description	Decision on release
1.	12 March 2019	Email: Private tutors in state schools	Release in part. Some information withheld under section 9(2)(a) and section 9(2)(ba)(i) of the Act.
2.	13 March 2019	File note: re email 12/03/19 – private tutors in state schools – conversation with Principal	Release in full.

From: [REDACTED] s 9(2)(a) OIA
To: [Ian Hill](#)
Subject: Private tutors in state schools
Date: Tuesday, 12 February 2019 5:18:34 p.m.

Kia Ora Ian

Due to issues of inequity I have recently told a private tutor that she can no longer tutor students privately during school time. I 'inherited' this tutor from Mr Lambert's days! I don't think there was ever a formal agreement of any kind. Last year it became ridiculous with her increasing her number of students. The staff and I got sick of the constant disruptions to class programmes, but overall the issues of inequity this creates.

I have told the tutor (and any future ones) that they can still use school buildings and resources but that they must timetable sessions before and after school. I thought this was a reasonable compromise. [REDACTED]

Your thoughts and or advice would be welcomed ☺

Kind Regards

[REDACTED] s 9(2)(a) OIA
[REDACTED]
Paraparaumu Beach School

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File Note

School: Paraparaumu Beach School

Subject: Email – Private Tutors in state schools

Date: 13 February 2019

1. Received email (12 Feb) from Principal (see school file)
2. Telephoned to get more detail. It seems that:
 - there is a long standing arrangement/acceptance for a person contracted by a group of parents to come to the school, use the premises and withdraw children from normal classes tutoring in literacy (children with dyslexia);
 - not sure who gave approval (before current principal's time);
 - the numbers are such that the withdrawal from classes is becoming disruptive to the normal classroom functioning;
 - the tutor is using space which, at times, restricts it's use for usual school work;
 - The board and the school have no involvement, the arrangement is a private one for some parents with children at the school who pay the tutor.
3. I said that it was the prerogative of the BOT as to whether they permitted private organisations into the school to provide a service.
4. The following points were discussed:
 - in theory, a private business is operating while the school is open;
 - while the intentions are obviously to support children it appears that the Board has not officially approved this arrangement or is acquainted with the service being offered;
 - nor is there any contract or arrangement with the BOT for the business to operate at the school e.g use/rent of premises and resources if any as is common in after hours situations ;
 - if it was a programme being offered by the school i.e. with Board approval then it would monitor the programme and require reports on progress of children;
 - the principal was advised by the tutor that operating the service outside school hours was not an option for her or the parents.

5. The principal is keeping the Board informed. I said that the board needs to consider formalising the arrangement in some way, if it wants to, but should be aware of the disruption to school operations.

Ian Hill

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Appendix Two

No	Date	Description	Decision on release
1.	26 March 2019	Email: OIA. Paraparaumu Beach School – from Christine to Ian	Release in part. Some information withheld under section 9(2)(a) of the Act.
2.	26 March 2019	File note: OIA - Bradley	Release in part. Some information withheld under section 9(2)(a) and section 9(2)(ba)(i) of the Act.

From: [Christine Wilson](#)
To: [Ian Hill](#)
Subject: OIA. Paraparaumu Beach School
Date: Tuesday, 26 March 2019 10:47:38 a.m.
Attachments: [image001.png](#)

Hi, From memory:

- I was rung by a parent concerned about the schools ongoing support for a parent funded Dyslexia programme being run by an independent person at the school. She was in favour of it as it was helping her child but was wanting to know the MoE's stance on this as the school were not wanting it to continue during school time. It seems the school was happy for it to happen before or after school. I was a little surprised as this was something that I knew nothing about and it sat outside anything I had been involved in the past or had knowledge about. I was a bit taken aback that the query had come to me so after gathering my thoughts I told the caller that I would need to find out for her as it was something as a professional I had not come across before. The parent on the phone said she had a meeting the next day and I described that I could not promise to get the information back to her before then.
- I rang Ian Hill, Education Advisor locally who advised that he knew about the situation and that it was a matter for the Board of Trustees to make decisions about. The issue would be that an independent teacher, not employed by the school, was working in the school during school time.
- I rang the parent and told her what I had found out. I believe the meeting with the school had already occurred and she seemed to have an understanding of what I related.
- A number of weeks later I was rung by the Principal of Paraparaumu Beach school. She related that I had been quoted as being stunned about the situation. I related that rather than stunned I was more surprised and at a loss to respond to the parent as I had no knowledge of the situation and thus the Ministries response to such matters.

I have had no further involvement in this matter.

Christine

s 9(2)(a) OIA

Christine Wilson | Service Manager
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 Mill Road, Otaki

education.govt.nz

We shape an education system that delivers equitable and excellent outcomes
He mea tarai e matou te matauranga kia rangatira ai, kia mana taurite ai ona huanga



School: Paraparaumu Beach School

Subject: OIA – Bradley

Date: 26 March 2019

Conversations Ian Hill held about the subject of this OIA

s 9(2)(a) OIA

1. **Telephone conversations with** [REDACTED] **after** receiving the email re Tutors in private schools:

- 12 Feb 2019 – see file note attached.

s 9(2)(a) OIA

s 9(2)(a) OIA

2. **Meeting with** [REDACTED], **and** [REDACTED]
[REDACTED] **6 March 2019:**

- Issue discussed again as part of other school matters.
- [REDACTED]
- I mentioned that as 'manager' of the school she had a right to take some action and/or report to the board.
- We went over some the same points discussed in the conversation recorded in my file note of 4 march 2019.

s 9(2)(ba)(i) OIA

3. **Telephone conversation with Christine Wilson, Service Manager Learning Support, Otaki Office**

- Christine contacted me to say that she had had a call from a parent about a provider who was paid by parents to tutor their children with dyslexia.
- I told Christine that I knew about the matter from the principal and explained the issue was around a private provider using the school to tutor children during school hours.
- The school was concerned at the disruption even though it was something that had been accepted for some time.
- Christine said that this was the first time she had heard of it and had told the parent so.