



Dear [REDACTED]

Thank you for your email of 21 November 2019 to the Ministry of Education requesting the following information:

How much in total have schools received in donations for the past three years?

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

I am providing you with donations data for all state and state-integrated New Zealand schools between 2016 and 2018, this is attached as **Appendix A**. The data is continually being updated as schools provide their financial returns to the Ministry, so the information in Appendix A is accurate as at November 2019. Please note that the data provided represents donations received by schools from all sources, not limited to donations from parents.

Although school donations are voluntary many families can feel under pressure to pay them and this can place pressure on household budgets. As part of Budget 2019, decile 1-7 state and state-integrated schools were given the opportunity to opt in to the donations scheme. Schools that opt into the donations scheme will receive \$150 per student if they agree not to ask for parent donations, with the exception of overnight camps. Boards can however still require payment for items and services that are extra-curricular (for example, school sports teams). The scheme is designed to give schools revenue certainty and to relieve financial pressures on families.

For further information on school donations, please visit our website at:

<http://www.education.govt.nz/school/funding-and-financials/fees-charges-and-donations/>

Please note, the Ministry now proactively publishes OIA responses on our website. As such, we may publish this response on our website after five working days. Your name and contact details will be removed.

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.team@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

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read 'Katrina Casey', written over a horizontal line.

Katrina Casey
Deputy Secretary
Sector Enablement and Support