



20/06/2024

Marcus Cook

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Tēnā koe Marcus

**OIA: 1329680 – Land acquired in Whenuapai**

Thank you for your email of 27 May 2024 via the FYI website to the Ministry of Education (the Ministry) requesting the following information, which we have numbered for ease of reference:

*I understand (via the proverbial grapevine) that MOE have recently acquired land in or around Whenuapai, Auckland, for the purposes of a high school.*

*My questions are:*

1. *Could you please confirm if this is the case or not?  
If so:*
2. *When does MOE expect to settle on this land?*
3. *When does MOE expect to start development?*
4. *When is this school expected to be open?*
5. *Is this school intended to be in addition or an alternative to the proposed "Kumeu College" site, which I understand to be in Taupaki.  
If not:*
6. *Has the MOE recently acquired land in or around Whenuapai for any other purpose (that is, not a secondary school)?*
7. *If so, what is the intended use for that land?*

*For the avoidance of doubt, "acquired" includes having concluded an agreement, whether or not the land has been actually purchased at this time.*

8. *If no agreement has been reached, please advise status of negotiations (within the provisions to withhold of course).*

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

Regarding the **first and sixth parts** of your request, I can confirm that the Ministry has not acquired land in or around Whenuapai for a high school or any other purpose.

As such, I am refusing the **second, third, fourth, fifth and seventh parts** of your request under section 18(e) of the Act, as the information does not exist.



Regarding the **eighth part** of your request, the Ministry is currently investigating opportunities to acquire land to support additional education provision in the Whenuapai area.

Please note, 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. You have the right to ask an Ombudsman to review my decision on your request, in accordance with section 28 of the Act. You can do this by writing to [info@ombudsman.parliament.nz](mailto:info@ombudsman.parliament.nz) or to Office of the Ombudsman, PO Box 10152, Wellington 6143.

Nāku noa, nā



Sam Fowler  
**Head of Property**  
**Te Pou Hanganga, Matihiko | Infrastructure and Digital**