



4/11/2024

Cooper O'Neil

fyi-request-28663-b430244c@requests.fyi.org.nz

Tēnā koe Cooper

OIA: 1337393 – Communications between the Ministry and Auckland Grammar School regarding granting exemptions from COVID-19 regulations to senior students August 2020

Thank you for your email of 4 October 2024 to the Ministry of Education (the Ministry) requesting the following information:

I am writing to request all communications between your office and Auckland Grammar School regarding the request to grant exemptions from COVID-19 regulations for senior students during August 2020, under the Official Information Act 1982.

Please include any emails, memos, letters, or notes related to this matter.

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

I have identified one email trail (**document one in Appendix A**) and one document (**document two in Appendix A**) in scope of your request, which I am releasing to you in part with some information withheld under section 9(2)(a) of the Act, to protect the privacy of natural persons.

As required under section 9(1) of the Act, I have considered the public interest in releasing the information withheld. I do not consider the public interest considerations favouring the release of this information are sufficient to outweigh the need to withhold it at this time.

I have further identified information that I am releasing to you as two excerpts, as envisaged under sections 16(1)(e) of the Act, which provides that, where requested information is comprised in a document, that information may be made available by giving an excerpt or summary of the contents. I am providing these as follows:

- **Excerpt 1** is a line is from a tracking sheet *Senior Secondary Student Attendance Permission Request Decisions Log* used during the response to COVID-19.
- **Excerpt 2** is a line that refers to Auckland Grammar School and is captured in *Appendix 1 Granted applications and attendance for Yr 12/13 return to school in a Ministry of Education COVID Situation Report - 24 August 2020* that listed the approved applications for Year 12/13 students.

I am releasing all this information to you as **Appendix A**.

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

Nāku noa, nā

A handwritten signature in blue ink, appearing to read 'L. Monahan'.

Lorraine Monahan
Manager Government Executive and Ministerial Services
Te Pou Rangatōpū | Corporate