

# Office of Hon Erica Stanford

Minister of Education  
Minister of Immigration  
Lead Coordination Minister for the Government's Response  
to the Royal Commission's Report into Historical Abuse in  
State Care and in the Care of Faith-based Institutions



ESOIA900

Ken Robertson  
[fyi-request-32055-5f5a1857@requests.fyi.org.nz](mailto:fyi-request-32055-5f5a1857@requests.fyi.org.nz)

Tēnā koe Ken,

Thank you for your Official Information Act 1982 (the Act) request, received on 19 August, in which you requested the following information:

*Any communications, including letters, meeting notes, emails, texts between Erica Stanford and any representatives of private companies or charities with interests in structured literacy, including any groups that produce structured literacy resources and programmes (for example, Learning Matters, BSLA or Liz Kane Literacy) or charities relating to structured literacy (for example, DEB - Dyslexia NZ evidence based) from October 2023 to the current date. You can exclude communications where a company is asking for you to look at their programme or resources if no reply was made or just a standard no thank you type reply was made.*

Following communication with you, this request was refined on 3 March 2026 to *only cover the providers given as examples in the initial request. That is BSLA, Liz Kane Literacy, Learning Matters and DEB - Dyslexia evidence based.*

I have considered your request under the Act.

There are 45 screenshots of text messages and 23 emails in scope of your request. I am releasing these, including their attachments, in part, with some information withheld under section 9(2)(a) of the Act, to protect the privacy of natural persons.

I am withholding all information that identifies the individual, or their organisation, as some of the organisations covered are either sole-traders, or small organisations, and therefore the individuals could be easily identified from context. This includes names, events, locations, feedback, and other information specific to their organisations. I am withholding this information particularly as some of the individuals have been the target of significant online harassment, resulting in unjustified reputational damage. Protecting the privacy of these individuals significantly reduces the potential for them to receive unsolicited online attention arising from their involvement in these issues in the course of their duty, and for their contributions to be misrepresented in a public forum.

Please note, I receive a large amount of correspondence, and anything operational is forwarded to the Ministry of Education for processing. Where no express questions are asked of my office, or where feedback is operational, the correspondent may not receive a response from my office.

Please find a table summary of emails below, including my decision on release, and the emails in Appendix A, and text messages in Appendix B.

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.

Thank you again for your email. You have the right to ask an Ombudsman to review this decision. You can do this by writing to [info@ombudsman.parliament.nz](mailto:info@ombudsman.parliament.nz) or Office of the Ombudsman, PO Box 10152, Wellington 6143.

Kind regards



Hon Erica Stanford  
**Minister of Education**

## Email table

Email	From	To	Date	Subject	Decision on release
Email 1	<b>Withheld</b> under section 9(2)(a)	Erica Stanford	May 26, 2025	Invitation to visit a structured literacy workshop	<b>Release in part.</b> Information has been withheld under section 9(2)(a) of the Act.
Email 2	Erica Stanford	<b>Withheld</b> under section 9(2)(a)	May 8, 2025	Meeting <b>partially withheld</b> under section 9(2)(a)	<b>Release in part.</b> Information has been withheld under section 9(2)(a) of the Act.
Email 3	<b>Withheld</b> under section 9(2)(a)	Erica Stanford	April 23, 2025	<b>Partially withheld</b> under section 9(2)(a) Workshops	<b>Release in part.</b> Information has been withheld under section 9(2)(a) of the Act.
Email 4	<b>Withheld</b> under section 9(2)(a)	Erica Stanford	July 11, 2024	Phonics Check	<b>Release in part.</b> Information has been withheld under section 9(2)(a) of the Act.
Email 5	<b>Withheld</b> under section 9(2)(a)	Erica Stanford	June 14, 2024	<b>Partially withheld</b> under section 9(2)(a) 'Sharing Best Practice'	<b>Release in part.</b> Information has been withheld under section 9(2)(a) of the Act.
Email 6	<b>Withheld</b> under section 9(2)(a)	Erica Stanford	May 26, 2024	<b>Withheld</b> under section 9(2)(a)	<b>Release in part.</b> Information has been withheld under section 9(2)(a) of the Act.
Email 7	<b>Withheld</b> under section 9(2)(a)	Erica Stanford, <b>partially withheld</b> under section 9(2)(a)	May 24, 2024	Te Reo Matatini	<b>Release in part.</b> Information has been withheld under section 9(2)(a) of the Act.
Email 8	<b>Withheld</b> under section 9(2)(a)	Te Poutāhū engagement, Erica Stanford, <b>partially withheld</b>	August 8, 2025	Providers attending national roadshow	<b>Release in part.</b> Information has been withheld under section 9(2)(a) of the Act.

		under section 9(2)(a)			
Email 9	<b>Withheld</b> under section 9(2)(a)	Erica Stanford, <b>partially withheld</b> under section 9(2)(a)	April 16, 2025	Request to meet	<b>Release in part.</b> Information has been withheld under section 9(2)(a) of the Act.
Email 10	<b>Withheld</b> under section 9(2)(a)	Erica Stanford, <b>partially withheld</b> under section 9(2)(a)	June 26, 2024	<b>Withheld</b> under section 9(2)(a) Invite	<b>Release in part.</b> Information has been withheld under section 9(2)(a) of the Act.
Email 11	<b>Withheld</b> under section 9(2)(a)	Erica Stanford, <b>partially withheld</b> under section 9(2)(a)	May 27, 2024	Invitation to... <b>partially withheld</b> under section 9(2)(a)	<b>Release in part.</b> Information has been withheld under section 9(2)(a) of the Act.
Email 12	<b>Withheld</b> under section 9(2)(a)	<b>Partially withheld</b> under section 9(2)(a), Erica Stanford	April 7, 2025	Our concern around <b>partially withheld</b> structured literacy teaching	<b>Release in part.</b> Information has been withheld under section 9(2)(a) of the Act.  The attachment is <b>withheld in full</b> under section 9(2)(a) of the Act – the attachment was an academic article sent to me by the correspondent.
Email 13	<b>Withheld</b> under section 9(2)(a)	Erica Stanford	August 23, 2024	Meeting to update on success of... <b>partially withheld</b> under section 9(2)(a)	<b>Release in part.</b> Information has been withheld under section 9(2)(a) of the Act.
Email 14	<b>Withheld</b> under section 9(2)(a)	Resource Teacher Consultation, <b>partially withheld</b> under section 9(2)(a),	March 17, 2025	Submission on Aligning Learning Support Roles with a suggestive Model	<b>Release in part.</b> Information has been withheld under section 9(2)(a) of the Act.  The attachment is <b>withheld in full</b> under section 9(2)(a) of the Act – Note, this attachment was a submission made by the correspondent

		Erica Stanford			that was sent to the Ministry of Education Resource Teacher Consultation mailbox, and the correspondent copied me into the submission.
Email 15	<b>Withheld</b> under section 9(2)(a)	Erica Stanford, Enquiries National, <b>partially withheld</b> under section 9(2)(a), National Curriculum Refresh	August 27, 2024	<b>Partially withheld</b> under section 9(2)(a) feedback on target supports to accelerate learning in literacy and te reo matatini	<b>Release in part.</b> Information has been withheld under section 9(2)(a) of the Act.  The attachment is <b>withheld in full</b> under section 9(2)(a) of the Act – Note, this attachment was a response to an email sent out by the Ministry of Education. The response was sent to me, as well as the Ministry of Education national enquiries inbox, and the national curriculum refresh mailbox.
Email 16	<b>Withheld</b> under section 9(2)(a)	<b>Partially withheld</b> under section 9(2)(a), Erica Stanford	September 12, 2024	Structured Literacy – How many children need top die before T3 is acknowledged and funded?	<b>Release in part.</b> Information has been withheld under section 9(2)(a) of the Act.  The attachments are <b>withheld in full</b> under section 9(2)(a) of the Act – Note, these are organisational letter regarding Structured Literacy in response to an email from the Ministry of Education to the correspondent on this issue.
Email 17	<b>Withheld</b> under section 9(2)(a)	<b>Partially withheld</b> under section 9(2)(a), Erica Stanford	March 2 2025	RTLit announcement	<b>Release in part.</b> Information has been withheld under section 9(2)(a) of the Act.
Email 18	<b>Withheld</b> under section 9(2)(a)	Erica Stanford	March 25, 2024	Clarification of Terms and Reading Recovery	<b>Release in part.</b> Information has been withheld under section 9(2)(a) of the Act.  The two attachments are <b>withheld in full</b> under section 9(2)(a) of the Act. Note, these are an email from the Ministry to the correspondent, and their response to the email, which is jointly addressed to the Ministry and myself.

Email 19	<b>Withheld</b> under section 9(2)(a)	Erica Stanford	August 18, 2025	<b>Withheld</b> under section 9(2)(a).	<p><b>Release in part.</b> Information has been withheld under section 9(2)(a) of the Act.</p> <p>The attachment is <b>withheld in full</b> under section 9(2)(a) of the Act. Note, this attachment was a post the correspondent made on social media that they forwarded to me.</p>
Email 20	<b>Withheld</b> under section 9(2)(a)	Erica Stanford	August 11, 2025	<b>Partially withheld</b> under section 9(2)(a) attached	<p><b>Release in part.</b> Information has been withheld under section 9(2)(a) of the Act.</p> <p>The two attachments are <b>withheld in full</b> under section 9(2)(a) of the Act. Note, these attachments were resources the correspondent created and forwarded to me.</p>
Email 21	<b>Withheld</b> under section 9(2)(a)	Erica Stanford	August 12, 2025	Hi	<p><b>Release in part.</b> Information has been withheld under section 9(2)(a) of the Act.</p>
Email 22	<b>Withheld</b> under section 9(2)(a)	Erica Stanford	June 27, 2025	A Heartfelt Thank You	<p><b>Release in part.</b> Information has been withheld under section 9(2)(a) of the Act.</p> <p>The attachment is <b>withheld in full</b> under section 9(2)(a) of the Act. Note, this attachment was a post the correspondent made on social media that they forwarded to me.</p>
Email 23	<b>Withheld</b> under section 9(2)(a)	Erica Stanford	April 22, 2025	Letter Attached	<p><b>Release in part.</b> Information has been withheld under section 9(2)(a) of the Act.</p> <p>The attachment is <b>withheld in full</b> under section 9(2)(a) of the Act. Note, this attachment was a letter the correspondent wrote to the Ministry that they forwarded to me.</p>