



Mrs Campbell  
[fyi-request-34364-1ee5c8b8@requests.fyi.org.nz](mailto:fyi-request-34364-1ee5c8b8@requests.fyi.org.nz)

18 May 2026

Tēnā koe Mrs Campbell

**OIA: [GEMS-47572] – Request for information relating to the risks associated with delivering the New Zealand Curriculum refresh**

Thank you for your email of 3 April 2026 to the Ministry of Education (the Ministry) requesting the following information:

*Please provide:*

*1. The most recent centralised risk register or consolidated risk summary held by the Ministry relating to the rollout of the new national curriculum (including the Common Practice Model), created or updated within the last six months.*

*I am specifically seeking the Ministry's overall, programme-level view of risks, rather than subject-specific or workstream-specific registers asked for in my previous request that was refused for substantial collation.*

*2. Any risk ratings, descriptions, or mitigation summaries within that centralised view that relate to the impact on student learning or attainment, particularly for students participating in the first two years of the new curriculum.*

*3. Any briefing or summary provided to the Minister of Education in the last six months that includes the current overall risk status of the curriculum rollout.*

Your request has been considered under the Official Information Act 1982 (the Act). As advised in our letter of 4 May 2026, the timeframe for responding to your request was extended for 15 working days to 26 May 2026 under section 15(1)(b) of the Act.

The Ministry maintains a programme-level risk register for the overall delivery of the Curriculum and Assessment Change Programme. The register identifies and records risks and issues relating to matters such as programme scope, timeframes and dependencies, cost pressures, resourcing, quality, and engagement.

The risk register is used as an internal management tool to support the ongoing monitoring of programme delivery and to inform regular programme status reporting and decision-making, with mitigation actions and hygiene practices in place to support delivery.

I am refusing **parts one** and **two** of your request under section 18(a) of the Act by virtue of section 9(2)(g)(i) providing good reason to withhold the information to protect the free and frank expression of opinions between officials. We consider that disclosure of the programme risk register, and the information contained therein, would be likely to inhibit the candid identification, assessment, and management of risks relating to the New Zealand Curriculum Refresh, which is necessary to support effective decision-making and good government.

As required under section 9(1) of the Act, I have considered the public interest in releasing the information withheld. I do not consider that the public interest considerations favouring the release of this information are sufficient to outweigh the need to withhold it at this time. I believe the greater public interest is in protecting the ability of individuals to express free and frank opinions in the course of their duty.

I am refusing **part three** of your request under section 18(e) of the Act as the document alleged to contain the information requested does not exist. No written briefing or summary has been provided to the Minister of Education in the last six months that includes the current overall risk status of the curriculum rollout. The Minister is kept up to date on curriculum and assessment change programme delivery through a combination of regular reporting, responsive briefing and weekly meetings with officials. The Minister is provided with a quarterly, high-level report aligned with her achievement target of more students at expected curriculum levels. The report outlines the progress of key initiatives supporting delivery of the target. It is not specific to, or limited to, the curriculum rollout.

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



Antony Harvey  
General Manager (acting), Business Operations  
**Te Poutāhū | Curriculum Centre**