



**Te Tāhuhu o
te Mātauranga**
Ministry of Education

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Mark Potter
President, NZEI Te Riu Roa
mark.potter@nzei.org.nz

Tēna koe Mark

Now that the Minister has formally announced the Ministerial Advisory Group review of staffing in schools, I am writing to NZEI as well as other sector peak body groups regarding next steps.

Thank you for your feedback on the draft Terms of Reference. This has not yet been reflected in the draft version being circulated to sector bodies for feedback, however we will incorporate this in due course.

Ministerial Advisory Group review of staffing in schools

The Minister of Education has announced the establishment of a Ministerial Advisory Group to review staffing in schools, including the student:teacher ratios.

The key focus of this group will be to advise the Minister on what skills and staffing are required across schools to deliver on the purpose of education as set out in the Education and Training Act 2020, and the National Education and Learning Priorities.

The scope, as outlined in the draft Terms of Reference, would have the Group review and provide advice on:

- teaching and learning needs
- leadership, management and administrative needs
- workforce needs to deliver support across the spectrum of learning support need, and particularly to respond to those who do not receive specialist support
- leadership and teaching needs to manage and support successful transitions from early learning to school
- teaching, learning and mentoring needs to manage and support through the secondary-tertiary-employment pathway.

While membership is still to be confirmed, as the draft Terms of Reference says, the group will benefit from having a wide range of skills and knowledge and will have broad representation from the sector. We welcome you to share any views or suggestions you may have regarding the membership of the Ministerial Advisory Group.

Te Pou Kaupapahere, the Ministry's policy group will consult Te Rūnanga Nui o Ngā Kura Kaupapa o Aotearoa and Ngā Kura Ā Iwi o Aotearoa about their involvement in this Ministerial Advisory Group.

The Minister expects that this group will provide her with a recommendations paper within three to six months of it being established, at which point the Minister will decide on next steps and which recommendations to take forward.



Curriculum Funding Ratios

The Minister also announced changes to the curriculum staffing ratios. From Term One 2024, staffing ratios will be reduced by 0.5 for years 4 – 8. These will be reduced by a further 0.5 from Term One 2025.

This will reduce current teacher to student funding ratios for Years 4-8 from 1:29 to 1:28 by 2025, bringing them closer to the 1:15 and 1:23 ratios already in place for years 1, 2 and 3.

Making this change will add funding for over 320 more full-time teachers into schools.

Proportional investment in staffing for Kaupapa Māori Kura

The Government has also set aside an equivalent investment package for Kaupapa Māori Kura and any other settings where ratios of 1:18 are already in place for years 2 – 8.

The Ministry will work with Te Rūnanga Nui o Ngā Kura Kaupapa Māori and Ngā Kura ā Iwi o Aotearoa on how this investment might be best used to support ākongā.

Te Pou Kaupapahere, the Ministry's policy group will be in contact to discuss these announcements with you and to talk through how you can be involved with shaping the scope of the Ministerial Advisory Group.

If you have any questions about this announcement or would like to provide feedback on the draft terms of reference please contact Staffing.Review@education.govt.nz.

Nāku noa, nā



Iona Holsted

Te Tumu Whakarae mō te Mātauranga | Secretary for Education