



26 June 2019

Khalia Strong
fyi-request-10269-7e73f71a@requests.fyi.org.nz

Dear Khalia

Thank you for your email of 7 May 2019 requesting the following information:

Please can you tell me how many schools in the country access the Out of Hours Music and Arts (OOHMA) funding. I would like to know:

How many hours are allocated to each school - How and when that distribution was allocated (was it based on population, interest from the public, demographic etc)?

Have there been any changes to the distribution of hours in the past 10 years and what were the reasons for that?

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

The Out-of-Hours music and art/craft scheme began in the mid-1950s. It was established to assist primary and intermediate schools to further their student's education through out-of-school professional tuition not normally available within the staffing of schools. Most of the classes are in music, but an estimated 10% are in arts and crafts.

The centres providing instruction are attached to host schools. They provide classes for primary students from all schools in an area. Classes are typically offered on Saturday mornings.

The intention is to use professional skills not normally available within the staffing of a school to assist groups of children in furthering their education in art or music outside of school hours.

Boards of Trustees take full responsibility for the jurisdiction of these classes, and for the staff attached to the school. The Board of the host school acts as the employer of any staff employed under the scheme. The staff are paid through the Education Service Payroll and cannot be employed by a music centre or any other ad hoc service. Any funding received must be accounted for by the Board, and details included in the Board's financial statement.

The Ministry funds a total of 56,099 hours of tuition, allocated to up to 150 'host' schools. The allocation per school has remained relatively consistent for a number of years and is predominantly determined by the Ministry's Regional Offices.

In response to your request, attached as **Appendix A** is a spreadsheet showing the distributed hours by region and school since 2009. The attached information detailing the hours allocated to each school was calculated based on the funding each school had received each year. Each school receives a "Housekeeping Grant" to support the administration costs of providing the scheme. This is calculated based on the number of hours a school has been allocated, multiplied by an assigned hourly dollar figure. This funding is paid to schools via their Operational Funding, usually in the January instalment. The hours stated in **Appendix A** were determined by extracting the value of funding the schools received each year, divided by the funding rate for each year. These figures are correct as of 21 May 2019.

As the data shows, during the last 10 years the hours allocated have ranged from 48,814 to 56,143. The scheme currently provides a national allocation for 2019 of 55,463 hours of classes per year. The allocation of hours has not changed for a considerable time and areas must remain within their allocation. The schools who receive the funding may, however, split the hours between providers any way they consider appropriate.

Thank you again for your email. I trust the above information is of assistance.

You also have the right to ask an Ombudsman to review our decision on your request. You can do this by writing to info@ombudsman.parliament.nz or Office of the Ombudsman, PO Box 10152, Wellington 6143.

Yours sincerely



Katrina Casey
Deputy Secretary
Sector Enablement and Support