



Susan Bates
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Tēnā koe Susan

Thank you for writing to the Ministry of Education on 12 December 2019 to request the following information about proposed identification of choking hazard foods in early childhood education services:

- *What empirical or other data or evidence has been used as the basis for this proposed action*

This letter seeks clarification on your request, to ensure we are able to identify and provide the correct information within scope of your request.

The draft guidance for minimising food related choking risk in Early Learning Service settings was prepared by the Ministry of Health. This was prepared ahead of the Ministry of Education's public consultation proposing to amend the licensing and certification criteria to minimise the risk of young children choking on food.

A copy of the Ministry of Health's guidance is available on our *Education Conversations* website at <https://conversation.education.govt.nz/minimising-food-related-choking-risks-in-early-learning-services/>.

We would appreciate if you could advise which of the following information you are looking for:

- The evidence which Ministry of Health relied on to substantiate the statements in its draft guidance, or
- The Ministry of Education's rationale for the proposed amendments to the licensing and certification criteria to minimise the risk of young children choking on food.

We would appreciate it you could advise us which information you are seeking on or before **24 January 2020**. You can do this by emailing info@education.govt.nz.

Nāku noa, nā

Lorraine Monahan
**Official and Parliamentary Information Manager
Government, Executive and Ministerial Services**