



16 March 2020

Susan Bates  
[fyi-request-12250-f1d97708@requests.fyi.org.nz](mailto:fyi-request-12250-f1d97708@requests.fyi.org.nz)

Dear Susan

Thank you for your email of 17 February 2020 to the Ministry of Education requesting the following information:

*I would like to know, if possible, what evidence or research, empirical or otherwise, was used to determine the following regulations in Early Childhood Education (ECE)*

- 1. space per child of 2.5 sqm inside and 5sqm outside*
- 2. no limit on group sizes of children*
- 3. ratios of 1 adult to 10 children over two years of age, 1 adult to five children under two years of age.*
- 4. why two years old was the cut off for these ratios.*

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

The Ministry needs to extend the timeframe of our response to your request, pursuant to section 15A(1)(b) of the Act, as consultations necessary to make a decision on the request are such that a proper response to the request cannot reasonably be made within the original time limit.

For this reason, you can expect to receive a response to your request by 6 April 2020. I expect that we will be able to respond to you before this date.

Please be advised that should you have any concerns regarding this extension you have the right to ask an Ombudsman to investigate our decision to extend the timeframe. 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.

Yours sincerley

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