



19 February 2020

Dr Robert Shaw

[fyi-request-14113-64b76d24@requests.fyi.org.nz](mailto:fyi-request-14113-64b76d24@requests.fyi.org.nz)

Dear Dr Shaw

Thank for your email of 18 February 2021 following up on your Official Information Act request of 12 November 2020, which sought the following information:

- 1. With regard to Stratford High School, for each of the last five years, how many students were enrolled, how many were suspended from school, how many under the age of 16 years were expelled from school?*
- 2. With regard to Stratford High School, does the school or the Ministry hold data on the whether or not the expelled students enter any form of formal education or training within a year of their expulsion? If there is such data please provide the summary for the last five years.*
- 3. How many students at Stratford High school had counselling provided by the school in each of the last five years (this means by a formally appointed and qualified counsellor)?*
- 4. How many students at Stratford High School saw an educational psychologist in each of the last five years?*

Following your email yesterday, we undertook an extensive search of [enquiries.national@education.govt.nz](mailto:enquiries.national@education.govt.nz) – the address which your original request was sent to – in order to locate your 12 November 2020 email. We have been able to determine that your request was not provided to the team to progress as a result of human error. Please accept my sincere apologies for this oversight. We have put in place reminders to reduce the possibility of this occurring again.

We have begun working on your request as an urgent matter. I can confirm that we do hold the data requested in respect of Part 1 and Part 2 of your request above and will provide this to you as soon as possible.

In the interim, we invite you to review publicly available information related to your request.

Key statistics and information regarding Stratford High School is publicly available on the Education Counts website:

<https://www.educationcounts.govt.nz/find-school/school/profile?district=34&region=7&school=179>

The publicly available information includes:

- A breakdown of school roll data by year group and ethnicity
- Age-standardised stand-down rate by gender and ethnic group.

The Ministry's stand-downs, suspensions, exclusions and expulsions guidelines are also publicly available on the Ministry of Education website: <https://www.education.govt.nz/school/managing-and-supporting-students/student-behaviour-help-and-guidance/stand-downs-suspensions-exclusions-and-expulsions-guidelines/>.


These guidelines are designed to assist boards of trustees, principals, and teachers with their legal options and duties and meet their obligations under relevant statutory requirements. These guidelines are for use in all state and state-integrated schools.

We have made enquiries with the relevant Business Units and have determined that the information you have requested in respect of parts 3 and 4 above is not held by the Ministry. I have therefore transferred your request to Stratford High School in accordance with section 14(b)(i) of the Official Information Act 1982.

You may expect a response from Stratford High School directly, concerning Parts 3 and 4 of your request.

You have the right to ask an Ombudsman to review this decision. 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 sincerely,



Tom Dibley

**Group Manager Government, Ministerial and Executive Services  
Strategy, Planning and Governance**