



MINISTRY OF EDUCATION

Te Tāhuhu o te Mātauranga

National Office

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9 May 2014

Anne Nordhaus
fyi-request-1521-1966c058@requests.fyi.org.nz

Dear Anne Nordhaus

Thank you for your email of 6 March 2014 requesting under the Official Information Act 1982 (the Act):

“Information on the number and dates of correspondences made to the Ministry referencing CRE, Religious Education in Schools, Bible in Schools programme, Religious Indoctrination in schools and CEC.”

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

I have attached all correspondence that we have a central record of regarding religious education in schools.

Some of these were addressed to the Ministry of Education, and others to the Minister of Education, we have included both.

We do not keep a record of the total number of correspondences made to the Ministry.

New Zealand schools are self-governing through Boards of Trustees which set policies and procedures for the management of the school, including those around religious education, instruction and observation.

Under sections 19 and 29(3) of the Official Information Act 1982 you have the right to ask an Ombudsman to review my response.

Yours sincerely



Katrina Casey
Deputy Secretary
Sector Enablement and Support

Encls

Document List

Doc No	Date of Doc	Description
1.	13 October 2005	Email and response from parent re legal rights of staff and students in a state secondary school in regards to religion at Mt Albert Grammar School and internal memo's on response
2.	28 February 2006	Email response to individual from Ministry re RI
3.	23 August 2006	Acknowledgement letter from Minister re RI
4.	23 August 2006	Direct reply to individual from the Minister re RI
5.	23 August 2006	Direct reply to individual from the Minister re RI
6.	23 August 2006	Direct reply to individual from the Minister re RI
7.	24 August 2006	Letter from individual to MP re religion in schools
8.	24 August 2006	Direct reply to individual on concerns for restrictions on prayer
9.	24 August 2006	Enquiry re the secular clause
10.	24 August 2006	Direct reply to individual re RI in schools
11.	24 August 2006	Letter from individual to Prime Minister office re schools and spirituality
12.	24 August 2006	Direct reply to individual re religious instruction and observances in state schools
13.	24 August 2006	Email from parent inquiry about bible studies
14.	25 August 2006	Direct reply to individual from the Minister re RI
15.	29 August 2006	Direct reply to individual from the Minister re RI
16.	29 August 2006	Direct reply to individual from the Minister re RI
17.	29 August 2006	Direct reply to individual from the Minister re RI
18.	30 August 2006	Direct reply to individual from the Minister re RI
19.	30 August 2006	Email from parent re religious education in schools
20.	13 September 2006	Direct reply to individual from the Ministry re Religious Instruction
21.	01 September 2006	Internal memo re religion advice FAQs
22.	18 September 2006	Direct reply to Principal from the Ministry
23.	15 September 2006	Letter to the Ministry and Direct reply from Ministry to individual re RI
24.	12 October 2006	Letter to individual from Ministry re teaching of religion in schools (b) Letter from parent to Minister of Education re Bible in Schools in Amberley Primary School (b) Direct reply to individual from the Ministry re

		Religious Instruction
25.	16 October 2006	Letter from Ministry to CEC re claims that CEC has been approved by MOE
26.	16 October 2006	Internal memo from legal re total hours of religious instruction
27.	16 October 2006	Letter to CEC from Ministry re the Ministry does not endorse any voluntary providers of religious instruction
28.	14 November 2006	Internal memo from legal re Ministry view on religious instruction -Avondale School
29.	04 December 2006	Email from Massey university to Ministry re complaint against CEC
30.	11 January 2007	Internal emails from legal to advisors re a letter re Bible readings in state schools Response from Minister
31.	02 February 2007	Email from Massey university to Ministry re CEC complaint (b) CEC documentation
32.	20 February 2007	Follow up letter from Ministry to CEC re agreed changes to wording on CEC website
33.	27 February 2007	Internal memo from legal guide to RI for local office
34.	15 March	Email response to parent re religious education in schools
35.	20 March 2007	Memo to Regional Directors re parent complaint re Avondale School re RI
36.	21 March 2007	Email and response from the Principal of Albany School
37.	27 March 2007	Internal memo from legal to local office re RI
38.	10 July 2007	Email from individual to Ministry asking advice on RI
39.	1 December 2008	Email from parent re West Auckland school to Ministry with response from Ministry re Bible Studies
40.	4 August 2009	Letter to individual from Ministry along with proposed response re RI
41.	11 August 2010	Direct reply to individual re RI
42.	15 January 2014 9 September 2011	(a) Internal emails relating to St Heliers (b) Email to Ministry from parent re Bible Studies in St Heliers School
43.	16 February 2012	Phone log: Request for information from parent re

		Christchurch East School Bible in Schools
44.	28 March 2012	File note: Phone call with NZSTA re Christchurch East School
45.	10 October 2012	Direct reply from Ministry to individual re teaching of RE in schools
46.	15 October 2012	File Note: Contact re Christchurch East School
47.	15 October 2012	Email to and from BOT Chair Christchurch East School
48.	01 November 2012	Letter from and response parent re religious instruction in schools from Ministry
49.	04 April 2013	Open letter to Peter Hughes re religious instruction
50.	1 August 2013 9 August 2013	Email from parent: Religious study at St Heliers School (b) Follow up emails to Ministry re bible studies at St Heliers School
51.	11 August 2013	Letter to Peter Hughes for repeal on Section 78 of the Act
52.	11 September 2013	Direct reply from Jim Greening to individual re state schools being secular
53.	8 November 2013	Email from parent re religious instruction at Dominion Road School Correspondence between parent and BOT of Dominion Road School
54.	20 November 2013	Enquiry from parents and response about Bible in Schools
55.	3 December 2013	Call log religious education enquiry from Board member
56.	15 January 2014	Email from parent re bible studies at St Heliers School
57.	29 January 2014	Email from individual re religion at Forrest Hill School
58.	02 February 2014`-	Email from individual re religion at St Heliers School
59.	11 February 2014	Email from BOT member asking advice on RI
60.	No Date	General Religion in Schools FAQ