

Hon Jan Tinetti

Minister of Education
Minister for Women
Minister for Child Poverty Reduction



Simon Acker
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Ref: OIA-2023-076

Tēnā koe Simon

Thank you for your email of 28 June 2023 requesting the following information in relation to the book by Juno Dawson, "This Book is Gay":

1. *Are you aware of this particular book?*
2. *Is this particular book approved to be in school libraries by the Ministry of Education?*
3. *If this particular book is in school libraries, which school libraries have this book on its shelves?*
4. *Has this particular book been suggested to the Ministry of Education to be included on school library shelves by any organisations, charities or lobby groups?*
5. *Has this particular book been approved and incorporated into any aspect of the school curriculum or NZQA curriculum, up to and including Level 3 NCEA, by the Ministry of Education?*

I have considered your request under the Official Information Act 1982 (the Act).

As per the email from my office on 12 July, parts 2 to 5 of your request have been transferred to the Ministry of Education and you can expect a response from them in due course.

As to whether I am aware of individual books in school libraries, New Zealand schools are self-governing through their boards and are responsible for making decisions about how best to meet their curriculum priorities. Schools can choose resources that they feel best meets the needs of their learners, and this includes books they may have in their school library. I understand the Ministry of Education will be providing you further information about recommendations or approval of books in school libraries in their response.

Thank you again for your email. You have the right to ask an Ombudsman to review this decision. You can do this by writing to info@ombudsman.parliament.nz or Office of the Ombudsman, PO Box 10152, Wellington 6143.

Nāku noa, nā

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read 'Jan Tinetti'.

Hon Jan Tinetti
Minister of Education