



22/03/2024

A Collins

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Tēnā koe A Collins

**OIA: 1322731 – Copies of correspondence regarding Kaipara College**

Thank you for your request via the FYI website of 12 February 2024 to the Ministry of Education (the Ministry) for the following information:

- 1. Copies of all correspondence including but not limited to emails; letters; text, Whatsapp, Signal, Telegram, and Microsoft Teams messages sent or received by the Secretary of Education and Ministry of Education staff regarding a request from the Minister of Education for an apology from the Secretary of Education to Kaipara College since 20 November 2023.*
- 2. Copies of all correspondence sent by the Secretary of Education to Kaipara College since 20 November 2023.*
- 3. Copies of all correspondence sent by the Ministry of Education to Kaipara College since 20 November 2023.*

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

In response to **first** and **second parts** of your request, we have identified the following documents which I am providing to you as **Appendix A**:

- An email regarding the Office of the Minister of Education (the Minister) advising that the Minister be carbon copied into the apology letter from the Secretary for Education to Kaipara College (document 1).
- The email from the Office of the Secretary for Education that was sent to Kaipara College with the apology letter (document 2).
- An email to the Minister's Office answering two Written Parliamentary Questions (WPs) where the answers refer to the apology letter (document 3).



- The letter that was provided to 38 individuals who had emailed the Ministry regarding Kaipara College. Please note that these emails did not refer to the apology letter, but the response letter does (document 4).
- Another request made under the Act which also refers to the apology letter (document 5).

I am withholding the names and email addresses of non-Ministry staff and all cell phone numbers in these documents under section 9(2)(a) of the Act, to protect the privacy of natural persons. Some information that is out of scope of your request has also been removed.

As required under section 9(1) of the Act, I have considered the public interest in releasing the information withheld under section 9(2)(a). I do not consider the public interest considerations favouring the release of this information are sufficient to outweigh the need to withhold it at this time.

The apology letter and the answers to the WPQs are publicly available and can be found at the following links, therefore I am refusing these documents under section 18(d) of the Act. Please note that the apology letter that is publicly available also has information withheld under section 9(2)(a) of the Act to protect the privacy of natural persons.

The apology letter was released in response to a previous request and can be found on our website here: <https://assets.education.govt.nz/public/Documents/our-work/information-releases/responses-to-Official-Information-Act-requests/1322552-Appendix-A.pdf>

The WPQs are available on the Parliament website here:

- 29582 (2023): [https://www.parliament.nz/en/pb/order-paper-questions/written-questions/document/WQ\\_29584\\_2023/29584-2023-hon-jan-tinetti-to-the-minister-of-education](https://www.parliament.nz/en/pb/order-paper-questions/written-questions/document/WQ_29584_2023/29584-2023-hon-jan-tinetti-to-the-minister-of-education)
- 29585 (2023): [https://www.parliament.nz/en/pb/order-paper-questions/written-questions/document/WQ\\_29585\\_2023/29585-2023-hon-jan-tinetti-to-the-minister-of-education](https://www.parliament.nz/en/pb/order-paper-questions/written-questions/document/WQ_29585_2023/29585-2023-hon-jan-tinetti-to-the-minister-of-education)

We have identified two email chains that are in scope of the **third part** of your request. I am partially releasing these to you as **Appendix B**, with cellphone numbers and the name and email addresses of two school employees withheld under section 9(2)(a) of the Act, to protect the privacy of natural persons. I have withheld emails from the school as out of scope of your request.

You can find further information regarding the information I am releasing to you in the **Document Tables** below this letter.

Please note, we may publish this response on our website. Your name and contact details will be removed.

Thank you again for your email. You have the right to ask an Ombudsman to review my decision on your request, in accordance with section 28 of the Act. You can do this by writing to [info@ombudsman.parliament.nz](mailto:info@ombudsman.parliament.nz) or to Office of the Ombudsman, PO Box 10152, Wellington 6143.

Nāku noa, nā

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read 'S. Evans', with a large, stylized flourish at the end.

Scott Evans  
**Hautū | Deputy Secretary**  
**Te Pou Hanganga, Matihiko | Infrastructure and Digital**

## Appendix A Document Table

#	Date	From	To	Title	Decision on release
1	8 Dec 2023	Sam Fowler	Alistair Murray, Hilary Capon, Andrew Stitt	FW: Property Meeting Actions	<b>Release in part.</b> Information has been withheld under section 9(2)(a) of the Act. Out of scope information has also been removed.
2	12 Dec 2023	Peter Wood	Kaipara College	Letter from the Secretary for Education	<b>Release in part.</b> Information has been withheld under section 9(2)(a) of the Act.
2A	SfE to Rochelle Gillespie – Kaipara College Board				<b>Refused in full.</b> Information has been refused under section 18(d) of the Act.
3	15 Dec 2023	Amy Dolden	Minister's Office staff, GEMS WPQ, Ministerial Requests	RE: 11 WPQs received 8 December - Due MO 12 pm, 14 December	<b>Release in part.</b> Information has been withheld under section 9(2)(a) of the Act. Out of scope information has also been removed.
3A	29584, 29585 (2023)				<b>Refused in full.</b> Information has been refused under section 18(d) of the Act.
4	20 Dec 2023	Scott Evans	Various	Letter advising public of the apology from the Secretary for Education to Kaipara College	<b>Release in part.</b> Information has been withheld under section 9(2)(a) of the Act. The date that is subject to change has also been redacted.
5	9 Feb 2024	Enquiries National	[Name withheld]	OIA Request 1322552 - Acknowledgment	<b>Release in part.</b> Information has been withheld under section 9(2)(a) of the Act.

## Appendix B Document Table

#	Date	From	To	Title	Decision on release
1	4 Dec 2023	Amanda Pellow	Cindy Sullivan	RE: Kaipara Collage	<b>Release in part.</b> Information has been withheld under section 9(2)(a) of the Act. Out of scope information has also been removed.
2	19 Jan 2024	Amanda Still	Principal – Kaipara College. [name withheld], [email address withheld]	Kaipara Innovation meeting 17.01.2024	<b>Release in part.</b> Information has been withheld under section 9(2)(a) of the Act.