

**1 DEC 2015**

Tony Meyer  
[fyi-request-3394-9c69402d@requests.fyi.org.nz](mailto:fyi-request-3394-9c69402d@requests.fyi.org.nz)

Dear Mr Meyer

Thank you for your email of 23 November 2015 to the Ministry, and also for clarifying your request. You have asked for the following information:

- *The number of students 2004-2014 who did not enrol at school before their seventh birthday because their residence was more than 3 kilometres walking distance from school (essentially, how often section 20(2) is actually used).*

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

From information collected at the time of enrolment, the Ministry knows how many children enrol when they are seven years old, and (since 2007) whether they are New Zealand residents or citizens.

The Ministry does not collect information that would enable us to find out why children start school late, nor the number of times that section 20(2) is used. I am therefore declining your request under section 18(e) of the Act, as this information does not exist.

Under section 28(3) of the Act, 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.

Thank you again for your request. If you have any further queries, please email us at [enquiries.national@education.govt.nz](mailto:enquiries.national@education.govt.nz).

Yours sincerely



**Cathryn Ashley-Jones**  
**Acting Deputy Secretary**  
**Evidence, Data and Knowledge**