



National Office

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**16 DEC 2015**

Jeff McClintock  
[fyi-request-3444-00ce5f96@requests.fyi.org.nz](mailto:fyi-request-3444-00ce5f96@requests.fyi.org.nz)

Dear Jeff

Thank you for your email of 4 December 2015 to the Ministry of Education about religious instruction and observance in New Zealand schools. You requested:

- 1. Please provide a copy of recent draft guidelines on Religious Instruction and/or observances in NZ schools. Please include any correspondence on the topic, particularly between the Ministry and school staff, school Principals, and school Boards of Trustees in regard to these guidelines circulated for feedback. Also include any correspondence between the Ministry and Religious Instruction providers or Religious organizations on these guidelines.*

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

The information you have requested is under active consideration. I am therefore withholding all documents in scope of your request, under section 9(2)(f)(iv) of the Act to protect confidentiality of advice tendered by officials.

You have the right to ask an Ombudsman to review this response. 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

Dr. Andrea Schöllmann  
**Deputy Secretary**  
**Education System Policy**