



– 1 SEP 2017

Andrew Tipton
fyi-request-6246-0683ebde@requests.fyi.org.nz

Dear Mr Tipton

Thank you for your email of 20 July 2017 to the Ministry of Education requesting the following information:

- *I am writing to request a copy of a database held by the Ministry. This database is known as "FIDS", the Financial Information Database for Schools.*

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

New Zealand public and state-integrated schools are required to have audited financial accounts under both the Public Finance Act 1989 and the Education Act 1989. The audited financial statements are provided to the Ministry each financial year. These financial statements should be available at schools upon request.

The Financial Information Database for Schools (FIDS) system holds the financial statements and is used to support the Ministry with our Financial Advisory Service.


I am releasing to you the FIDS data for the school financial years 2009-2015 as electronic comma-separated value files, attached to this response. As financial data is drawn from individual schools' audited financial accounts, the Ministry cannot guarantee the accuracy of the information.

There are some nuances to this database that the Ministry has developed expertise in understanding over time. If you are intending to report on this data, we would like to offer you the opportunity to provide the Ministry with a draft of your analysis so that we can aid you in ensuring all assessments are accurate.

Please note, the Ministry now proactively publishes OIA responses on our website. As such, we may publish this response on our website after five working days. Your name and contact details will be removed.

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.

Yours sincerely



Dr Craig Jones
Deputy Secretary
Evidence, Data and Knowledge