



10 SEP 2018

Katrina Bevan
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Dear Katrina

Thank you for your request of 20 July 2018 for the following information:

Dear Ministry of Education,

Could I please have statistics data for the following: (ESW-Education support worker)

- 1. Number of children receiving ESW support in ECE from 2000-2018 aged 3-4*
- 2. Number of children receives ESW support in ECE from 2000-2018 aged 4 and over.*
- 3. Number of children receives ESW support in ECE from 2000-2018 aged 5years.*
- 4. Number of children receiving ESW support in ECE from 2000-2018 with identified diagnosed learning disability.*
- 5. Number of children receiving Teacher Aide support in public school between 2000-2018 aged 5-6years.*
- 6. Number of children receiving Teacher Aide support in public school between 2000-2018 aged 7-12.*
- 7. Number of children receiving Teacher Aide support in public school in 2000-2018 aged 13-18years.*
- 8. Of the children in point 5-7 how many were children with identified and diagnosed disabilities.*
- 9. What are the types of disabilities for children identified in point 4 and point 8.*
- 10. What are the types of disabilities for children identified in points 1-3 and 5-7 (it is understood not all children have a diagnosed disability rather a learning need that is not persistent)*

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

Education Support Worker (ESW) resource

The ESW resource can be part of an early intervention team to support the inclusion and individual plans of children with the highest level of needs in early childhood education programmes. Our specialists work with whānau and educators to identify what supports are required. For some children, this will include an application for an ESW to support the implementation of the plan and inclusion:

The Ministry employs around 90 full time equivalent ESWs and funds over 200 early childhood and specialist service providers to provide support directly.

Teacher Aide support

Teacher aides support the classroom teacher by carrying out a range of support tasks which may include behaviour management, providing learning support, as well as physical care and administration. They work under the direction of teachers who have full responsibility for planning and implementing the educational programme for students.

The Ministry provides funding to over 2,000 schools for teacher aides to work, with students who are supported by Ministry-funded Learning Support services such as the Ongoing Resourcing Scheme (ORS), School High Health Needs Fund, Language and Learning Intervention, In-Class Support, and the Behaviour Service. This funding provides teacher aide support for approximately 18,000 students.

Schools may also choose to employ teacher aides using their Special Education Grant (SEG), which is part of the operational funding they receive from the Ministry. In 2017/18 schools received approximately \$40.5 million in SEG funding (excl GST).

Response to your request

In order to answer questions 1,2,3,5,6 and 7, all of the Ministry of Education's regional offices would be required to make contact with and collate information from individual schools. The volume of information over the time period requested cannot be made available without substantial collation and research, therefore your request is refused under section 18(f) of the Act.

In regards to questions 4, 8, 9 and 10, the Ministry provides support on the basis of educational need rather than a particular disability or diagnosis. The Ministry does not collect data on the diagnosed disabilities of children, therefore we are refusing your request under section 18(e) of the Act as the information requested does not exist.

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.

If you are unsatisfied with my response, you have the right to ask an Ombudsman to review it. You can do this by writing to info@ombudsman.parliament.nz or Office of the Ombudsman, PO Box 10152, Wellington 6143.

Yours sincerely



Katrina Casey
Deputy Secretary
Sector Enablement and Support