



07 January 2019

Scott K Galvin
fyi-request-9214-663b3d75@requests.fyi.org.nz

Dear Scott

Thank you for your email of 10 December 2018 to the Ministry of Education with the following request:

- *“Dear Ministry of Education
I am currently working as an ORS funded teacher aide. During the break I was hoping to upskill myself. I was hoping you could provide me with a list of the most common disabilities/conditions that ORS funded tutors work with. This will allow me to do some personal reading on different disabilities I might come across in my career. Percentages of typical diagnoses or similar would be good.
Also, I am curious about the relationship between ORS funding and decile ratings of the schools that students attend. If it is easily possible to get some percentages or similar for either student numbers, spending or both that would be good.”*

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

I understand you spoke with one of my staff about where some of the information you requested can be found online and some resources that will be helpful for you. I am writing to confirm the details of that discussion for your future reference. I am also providing a table which I hope you will find informative.

Data on the number of students involved with the Ongoing Resourcing Scheme (ORS) can be found here:

<https://www.educationcounts.govt.nz/statistics/special-education/ongoing-resourcing-scheme>

This data is updated annually as audited data becomes available.

The Ministry does not collect information on students in ORS by label or disability, as these factors do not determine access to the scheme. We do collect data about children and young people who are in the ORS by ORS criterion (need type). The criteria to access ORS funding can be found here:

<http://www.education.govt.nz/school/student-support/special-education/ors/criteria-for-ors/>

Self-paced modules of learning for teacher's aides are available at tki.org.nz. Information, strategies and resources for a number of conditions that our children and young people may live with are available at inclusive.tki.org.nz. I hope you will find these resources useful for you as you extend your professional knowledge and practice.

The following table shows an approximate distribution of percentages of students in ORS by need type as at July 2018.

Percentage of students in ORS by need type in July 2018

Need Type	Cognitive	LUSC	Sensory	Physical	Cognitive/LUSC	Cognitive/Physical	Cognitive/Sensory/Physical	Cognitive/Sensory	Combined Moderate Needs	Sensory/Physical	Sensory/LUSC
Percentage of Students	50.7	30.9	7.5	6.5	2.2	1.1	0.0	0.1	0.9	0.0	0.0

*LUSC stands for Language Use and Social Communication

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



Katrina Casey
Deputy Secretary
Sector Enablement and Support