

Office of the Prime Minister

Prime Minister

Minister for National Security and Intelligence

Minister for Child Poverty Reduction

Minister Responsible for Ministerial Services

Associate Minister for Arts, Culture and Heritage



Chris McCashin
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8 JUL 2022

Ref: PMO 2022-188

Tēnā koe Chris McCashin

Official Information Act Request Mask mandates in schools

Thank you for your Official Information Act 1982 (the Act) request, received on 18 June 2022. You requested:

"A recent stuff article noted that there are groups "pressuring" mask mandates to be reintroduced into schools.

Please provide any letters, requests, names of groups, public agencies, unions, universities, directives written or verbal of anything that would be classed as pressure for mask mandates to be reintroduced to schools.

Ultimately who are the "groups" pressuring the government to reintroduce mask mandates. Are they NGO's, unions, individuals, schools, government agencies. A list of organizations putting pressure on the government and associated documents with this "pressure".

Also can you please provide the total number of teachers that were terminated due to not adhering to vaccine mandates. Please include both of these answers on letterhead from the PM and signed even if other agencies are consulted in this response."

I believe that your request is more closely connected to the functions of the Ministry of Education (the Ministry). I understand that you have also made the same request directly to the Ministry. Usually, we would transfer this request to the Ministry under section 14b(ii) of the Act, however as your request has already been received by that Office, we instead refer you to their response.

You have the right to ask the Ombudsman to investigate and review my decision under section 28(3) of the Act.

Ngā mihi nui,

Raj Nahna
Chief of Staff