National Education Growth Plan (NEGP)

The National Education Growth Plan (NEGP) is a new way of thinking about and co-ordinating the Ministry of Education's response to population growth across New Zealand.

The NEGP incorporates the catchment plans for...

Otago/Southland

Population growth is placing pressure on our school network in specific areas of the country. These high growth areas are all unique and are experiencing growth in different ways.

A new approach is needed to ensure that the educational needs are met for every child in New Zealand.

Key facts

The Queenstown Lakes district is one of the country’s fastest growing districts. Growth in this area has been influenced mainly by:

- Residential developments
- Population growth

Wanaka

Wanaka has experienced rapid growth, which is forecast to continue.

To address student population growth in this catchment, we have acquired a site for a future primary school. Construction of Te Kura o Take Kārara is well under way and planned to open in 2020. We have added additional teaching spaces to Wanaka Primary and Hawea Flat Schools.

We are undertaking a significant redevelopment project at Mt Aspiring College to add teaching spaces.

Wakatipu Basin

Significant population growth over the last ten years is expected to continue. Queenstown is a high growth urban area, and further residential developments are planned in the surrounding areas.

Our plans to respond to this growth have been well developed and, since 2009, we have added teaching spaces to existing schools, built two new schools, and redeveloped and re-sized Arrowtown School. We have also re-located and significantly increased the size of Wakatipu High School with the potential to develop it further.

We have recently acquired additional land for future primary provision. We are currently reviewing land requirements for further schooling provision to respond to growth.

Investment

Long term investment is required to deliver the NEGP, including in Otago/Southland.

Planning

Our growth plans for these catchments are well developed and are the result of ongoing engagement with the education sector.

Our plans are aligned with and enhanced through partnering with Councils and other government agencies.

We will continue to work with schools and their communities as population projections are dynamic and subject to change over time.

Solutions

Catchment plans present strategic solutions for managing education demand across New Zealand. Detailed response planning for each catchment will include a description of our planned actions, and the triggers that would initiate these actions. This allows us to respond flexibly in a dynamic and rapidly changing growth environment.

For areas outside of the NEGP that are growing, we are providing roll growth classrooms to address increased demand. We will continue to work with schools to implement enrolment schemes, apply schooling level changes, and consider network structure as required across the region.