



## Education Report: The Progress and Consistency Tool and Te Waharoa Ararau enhancements – Releases 1 and 2

<b>To:</b>	Hon Chris Hipkins, Minister of Education		
<b>Date:</b>	4 May 2018	<b>Priority:</b>	Medium
<b>Security Level:</b>	In Confidence	<b>METIS No:</b>	1121968
<b>Drafter:</b>	Denise Arnerich	<b>DDI:</b>	§ 9(2)(a) OIA
<b>Key Contact:</b>	Pauline Cleaver	<b>DDI:</b>	
<b>Messaging seen by Communications team:</b>	No	<b>Round Robin:</b>	Yes

### Purpose of Report

1. This paper informs you of this year's releases of updated versions of the Progress and Consistency Tool (PaCT) and Te Waharoa Ararau (TWA), scheduled for the end of May, and October 2018. It also seeks advice on your preferred approach for engaging with the releases of the enhanced tools, specifically the October release, which will be the most significant upgrade to the tools so far.
2. As part of creating a trusted environment for the use of these tools, this paper also provides you a draft letter to send to the New Zealand Principals' Federation (NZPF) outlining your expectations regarding the use of data and the need to develop transparent principles.

Proactively Released

## Recommended Actions

The Ministry of Education recommends you:

- a. **note** that Release 1 of the Progress and Consistency Tool (PaCT) and Te Waharoa Ararau (TWA) enhancements will take place at the end of May 2018. **Noted**
- b. **indicate** if you would like the Ministry to provide you with a media release for Release 1. **Agree / Disagree**
- c. **indicate** your preferred approach for engaging with Releases 2 of the PaCT and TWA enhancements. Recommended engagement options include:
- I. The Ministry providing you with a pack of materials outlining the enhancements included in Release 2; or **Agree / Disagree**
  - II. The Ministry holding a briefing session at your office, outlining the enhancements included in Release 2. **Agree / Disagree**
  - III. A combination of these options. **Agree / Disagree**
- d. **note** and agree to sign and send the letter to NZPF. **Agree / Disagree**
- e. **agree** that this Education Report is proactively released, with appropriate redactions in line with the provisions of the Official Information Act 1982. **Agree / Disagree**

*Released*

Pauline Cleaver  
Associate Deputy Secretary  
Early Learning and Student Achievement

    



Hon Chris Hipkins  
Minister of Education

11/5/18

## Background

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3. *The New Zealand Curriculum* and *Te Marautanga o Aotearoa* form the basis for the Progress and Consistency Tool (PaCT) and *Te Waharoa Ararau* (TWA) respectively. These two curriculum documents include a clear set of outcomes, principles, values, learning areas and capabilities for lifelong learning from which schools and kura can tailor to suit their local need.
4. The PaCT was initially designed to support the teaching profession to make dependable Overall Teacher Judgments (OTJs) of achievement in relation to National Standards. The PaCT is underpinned by the Learning Progression Frameworks, which build on the curriculum and enable teachers and kaiako to understand progress. The frameworks focus on the foundational capabilities: reading, writing and mathematics. TWA was designed to collate OTJs in one place, and to generate reports in relation to *Ngā Whanaketanga Rumaki Māori* for students, whānau, kaiako and Boards of Trustees.
5. The removal of National Standards and *Ngā Whanaketanga Rumaki Māori* created a climate for change. The Ministry is now working, with the sector, to reposition these progress tools as a way to strengthen the use of the National Curriculum for years 1-10.
6. The first step for TWA is to develop *Anga Tupuranga* (Māori medium progressions) for pāngarau and te reo matatini, and integrate them into the tool. This must be completed in order to deliver the same functionality as PaCT, and therefore will run on different implementation timeframe than the PaCT changes.
7. As part of the planned enhancements to the progress tools, a series of up to 5 releases will be taking place over the next three years.

## 2018

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8. **Release 1** is scheduled for the end of May 2018, and extends the use of progress tools for use up to curriculum level 5 (years 9 and 10). The other key enhancement is the re-calibration of the tool to the curriculum levels. As an interim function, the ability for schools, kura and *Kāhui Ako* to view reports against National Standards / *Ngā Whanaketanga Rumaki Māori* calibration has been retained. This means OTJs can now be made in relation to the curriculum levels, and this is the new default setting.
9. There is an opportunity to issue a media release, should you wish to, regarding the May release. The theme of this communication would be aligned to the objectives of the Curriculum, Progress and Achievement programme. We are aware of the close timing of the National Conversation, and that progress and achievement is a priority focus of that engagement.
10. **Release 2** is scheduled for October 2018. These enhancements include more nuanced understanding of progress, and more helpful reports for parents which offer time-saving efficiencies for teachers. They also enable *Kāhui Ako* to share and aggregate their data to a *Kāhui Ako* level. We would like to test these report formats with you, the Curriculum, Progress and Achievement Ministerial Advisory Group and Reference Group. We would also like to know your preferred approach for engaging with this release.

11. **Release 3** will include functions that will allow schools and Kāhui Ako to track and report on groups of students over time, and understand how targeted initiatives have served their students' needs. We will also engage with the sector and NZSTA to understand and develop functions that will assist schools and kura meet the information needs of Boards of Trustees.
12. **Release 4** will include the integration of Ngā Anga Tupuranga (Māori medium progressions) to underpin TWA, and support reliable and consistent moderation of progress and achievement information in the four foundation areas (kōrero, pānui, tuhituhi and pāngarau).
13. **Release 5** will include reporting to whānau, Kāhui Ako reporting, initiatives reporting, and governance reports that are tailored to the kura. By the completion of release 5, there will be equity across the PaCT and TWA tools, and support for progress and achievement in foundational learning across both curricula.
14. We will provide you with further updates on engagement options for each release at the appropriate time.

#### New Zealand Principals' Federation (NZPF) letter

15. As part of creating a trusted environment for the use of these tools, we have provided you a letter for your consideration to send to the NZPF outlining your expectations regarding the use of data and the need to develop transparent principles (refer Annex 1). This letter is intended to provide NZPF with the confidence they require to support the use the PaCT tool.
16. We met with Whetu Cormack, President of NZPF on Monday 30<sup>th</sup> April, to discuss the key messages and assurances that would need to be covered in the letter. He restated his concern about Ministry access to data but expressed his support for working with the Ministry and other stakeholders in a co-design approach to the development of transparent principles. The letter has been updated accordingly.
17. NZPF Executive is meeting on May 11/12<sup>th</sup> and if they receive the letter before this they will be able to discuss it at the meeting.

#### Proactive Release

18. It is intended that this Education Report is proactively released as per your expectation that information be released as soon as possible. Any information which may need to be withheld will be done so in line with the provisions of the Official Information Act 1982. We will work with your office on the timing of the proactive release to ensure that it aligns with any communication activities, and work being undertaken by the Curriculum, Progress and Achievement Ministerial Advisory Group.

#### Annexes

Annex 1: Letter to Whetu Cormack

# Office of Hon Chris Hipkins



MP for Rimutaka

Minister of Education

Minister of State Services

Leader of the House

Minister Responsible for Ministerial Services

Whetu Cormack  
National President  
New Zealand Principals' Federation

11 MAY 2018

s 9(2)(a) OIA

Dear Whetu

As you know, schools are no longer required to report on National Standards and Ngā Whanaketanga Rumaki Māori, and the *National Administration Guidelines* have been amended to focus on progress and achievement across the curricula.

The implementation of Ngā Whanaketanga Rumaki Māori and National Standards has demonstrated that we should not rush to put in place a new system. We need to take the time to work with the sector, students, parents, whānau and iwi to develop a new approach for understanding progress across the curricula that will meet their needs, and contribute to the education system supporting the success of all students.

It is important to me to hear the diverse perspectives and experiences from a broad range of teaching practitioners, students, parents, whānau and iwi. The Ministry of Education will be specifically engaging with these groups to enable them to provide their input.

I understand there are significant concerns in the sector about how assessment and aromatawai information is used, or could potentially be used. Creating a trusted environment with agreed principles is an important part of the work programme.

Privacy and access to personal information is highly important, and it is essential that we get this right.

Under the current Progress and Consistency Tool (PaCT) terms of use, the Ministry is restricted to using the information in PaCT for research purposes only, which does not allow individuals and schools to be identified. This information is provided directly to people who use PaCT at the sign-up stage, and the Ministry ensures that these terms of use are strictly adhered to.

This means that the Ministry cannot use that student progress and achievement data to judge the performance of a teacher. We do not intend to use this information in ways that would lead to league tables being formed.

The use of education information needs to be managed with a clear and shared sense of purpose, and in a transparent and trustworthy way. I trust you will be an active participant in co-designing a future approach, including the development of a *Data Protection and Use Policy*, to provide the clarity and certainty we need.

I understand you have been discussing this, as well as options for the housing of the PaCT Tool, with the Ministry and the New Zealand Council for Educational Research. I am assured that the Ministry will continue to work on this collaboratively with the sector.

Yours sincerely

**Chris Hipkins**  
Minister of Education



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