



## Briefing Note: Education & Training Bill opposition engagement

<b>To:</b>	Hon Chris Hipkins, Minister of Education		
<b>Date:</b>	24 May 2019	<b>Priority:</b>	High
<b>Security Level:</b>	In Confidence	<b>METIS No:</b>	1192101
<b>Drafter:</b>	Rachel Voller	<b>DDI:</b>	s 9(2)(a)
<b>Key Contact:</b>	Ben O'Meara	<b>DDI:</b>	
<b>Messaging seen by Communications team:</b>	No	<b>Round Robin:</b>	No


### Purpose of paper

- <sup>Your office.</sup> You have asked how we would recommend discussing the Education and Training Bill with the Opposition. We propose an initial meeting now (based on the key messages below). This initial meeting would focus on the general nature of the legislation review.
- Subsequent meetings could occur following (or as part of) decisions on key parts of the work programme such as Tomorrow's Schools.

### Proactive release

Agree that this Briefing will be proactively released.

Agree / Disagree

  
Dr Andrea Schöllmann  
Deputy Secretary  
Education System Policy

24/05/2019

  
Hon Chris Hipkins  
Minister of Education

24/5/19

## Key messages for the first meeting

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- The Minister has asked us to prepare an Education and Training Bill for introduction later this year.
- This Bill's primary focus will be to implement the proposed reforms from decisions yet to be considered and made on the Education Work Programme including Tomorrow's Schools.
- The Bill's secondary focus will be to update and tidy up our existing education legislation.
- To do this, we are looking at how to consolidate, update and restructure the existing material in the Education Act 1989, the Education Act 1964 and the Industry Training and Apprenticeships Act 1992. The intention is to repeal and replace these existing Acts, and carry over all existing provisions from these Acts into a new Education and Training Bill.
- Our current Education Act 1989 has become very complex and unwieldy, has many outdated terms, and has been amended so often that it is now very difficult to navigate. It is not a user-friendly Act.
- The Review of Vocational Education (RoVE) changes to the legislation will be progressed initially via a separate Bill. We anticipate this Vocational Education Legislation Bill (VELB) will progress ahead of the Education and Training Bill, and the changes in this VELB will be incorporated in to the Education and Training Bill.
- A new Education and Training Bill requires us to review all of the existing language to update it where necessary. For example, we're looking to remove all out-dated references to Standards and Forms and replace them appropriately with Year Levels.
- Where changes have been identified that impact the original policy intent, or may give rise to concern about wording changes, we will be publically consulting on the changes.
- We are currently consulting on three proposals for inclusion in the Bill. One proposal is to change the name for Special Schools to Specialist Schools, and to transfer the 1964 Act establishment and disestablishment provisions for special schools to the new Act with some minor wording changes. We are also consulting on a proposal to prohibit the awarding of NCEA offshore. And we are consulting on strengthening the right to education by explicitly including a right to attendance.
- We are working on a new structure for the Bill that follows the journey of students through education (in other words, starts with ECE, moves to schooling and then on to tertiary and vocational training). Within each Part, we are hoping to follow an order that tries to focus primarily on a student's rights, responsibilities and needs before moving on to the more administrative provisions.