



Briefing report

Education Review Office (ERO): Longer Term Research: Education System Review

Date	18 February 2021
Security Level	N/A
ERO Priority	Medium
ERO Reference	M21-5
Date requested	ERO initiated
Date due	ERO initiated
Proactive release	Recommended

Addressee	Action sought	Deadline
Associate Minister of Education	<p>It is recommended that you:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> a) note ERO's new multi-year research project b) note ERO aims to complete the first report on the <i>Education System Review</i> by the end of 2021 c) agree this briefing is recommended for proactive release 	



Attachments: 1

***Education Review Office (ERO):
Longer Term Research: Education
System Review***



Comments:

Minister's Office to complete

Noted	<input type="checkbox"/>
Seen	<input type="checkbox"/>
Approved	<input type="checkbox"/>
Referred to:	
Date signed by Associate Minister:	



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Our Ref: M21-5

Hon Jan Tinetti
Associate Minister of Education

Longer Term Research: Education System Review

Purpose

1. This briefing provides you with details of ERO's new multi-year research project, the Education System Review. The briefing sets out the evidence this work programme will produce and how ERO is developing and delivering this work in partnership with others.

Background

2. ERO's work shines a light on the performance of the education system at school and system level. The Government's response to the Tomorrow's Schools Review asked ERO to increase its role in understanding the performance of the education system, building on our strengths of understanding the performance of individual schools.
3. Te Ihuwaka, the Education Evaluation Centre was established within ERO to provide an increased focus on evaluation, including system wide evaluation. Te Ihuwaka has developed a strong work programme of thematic and initiative evaluation [briefing M20-50 dated 8-12-20 refers]. We are also developing a programme of longer-term research/evaluation and working to partner with other education agencies.

Building an Education System Review

4. As part of the longer term research we will be working with other agencies to develop a basket of indicators that will enable us to track the performance of the education system over time – an Education System Review. These indicators sit across three levels (student, school and system) and align with the established ERO indicators for schools.
5. We are drawing together evidence and data from across education agencies for this work, for example we are working with NZCER on their *Teaching and School Practices* survey as part of this work and have contributed funding for their 2021 survey. We will also draw on local and international data, such as NMSSA, TIMSS, PIRLS and PISA.
6. The Education System Review will complement existing data with new data from purpose-designed tools that enable us to provide strong student, whānau and teacher voices to triangulate evidence on how the system is working. A key tool is a school self-assessment being developed as part of ERO's new school operating model – this will enable us to have a national picture of how schools view their own performance.

7. Developing the right indicators that will endure overtime is important. We are building this Education System Review carefully and gradually, starting with state and state-integrated schools in English Medium. Over time, we will add Māori Medium and early childhood education.
8. A slide pack is attached, which provides further detail about our approach to this work.

Key benefits/impacts

9. The Education System Review will enable us to:
 - a. Be clear about how the system delivers for different groups of children and track how this changes over time.
 - b. Identify what is working well and where we need collectively to focus our efforts.
 - c. Put the child at the centre by basing the report on the voices of students, whānau, leaders and teachers.
10. The Education System Review provides an opportunity to have an enduring evidence base that is coordinated across agencies and draws on both domestic and international data. Ministers can use this to see where the education system is at a point in time and to trace the impact of key changes to the education system over time.

Next steps

11. We are currently gathering existing data and testing the new tools, before rolling them out to a wider sample. We will have external experts testing the robustness of the tools.
12. We will keep you informed at key stages in the development of this work. We aim to complete the first report on the Education System Review by the end of 2021.

Recommendations

13. It is recommended that you:
 - a) **note** ERO's new multi-year research project noted
 - b) **note** ERO aims to complete the first report on the *Education System Review* by the end of 2021 noted
 - c) **agree** this briefing is recommended for proactive release. agree/disagree


 Ruth Shinoda
Acting Chief Executive

NOTED/APPROVED

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