



Briefing report

Education Review Office (ERO): ERO's Long Term Insights Briefing: Responding to Diverse Cultures

Date	15 February 2022
Security Level	N/A
ERO Priority	Medium
ERO Reference	M22-4
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> <p>a) Note ERO's proposed Long Term Insights Briefing (LTIB) topic is <i>Responding to Diverse Cultures: Schools' Practice</i>.</p> <p>b) Note ERO's plan to publish the LTIB topic for consultation on 2nd March 2022.</p> <p>c) Note that the Education Review Office will release this briefing in full at the time of the consultation period.</p> <p>d) Indicate if you want to discuss this briefing with officials.</p>	



Attachments:

**Education Review Office (ERO):
ERO's Long Term Insights Briefing:
Responding to Diverse Cultures**



Comments:

Minister's Office to complete

Noted

Seen

Approved

Referred to:

Date signed by Minister:



EDUCATION REVIEW OFFICE
Te Tari Arotake Mātauranga

NATIONAL OFFICE
LEVEL 1, 101 LAMBTON QUAY
PO BOX 2799
WELLINGTON 6140
SX10166
T 0-4-499 2489
F 0-4-499 2482
info@ero.govt.nz
www.ero.govt.nz

Our Ref: M22-4

15 February 2022

Hon Jan Tinetti
Associate Minister of Education

ERO's Long Term Insights Briefing: Responding to Diverse Cultures

Purpose

1. This briefing is to update you on ERO's Long Term Insights Briefing, including the upcoming consultation on the proposed topic.

Background

2. As you will be aware, ERO is required to deliver a Long Term Insights Briefing (LTIB) this year. LTIBs identify and explore issues that matter for the future wellbeing of the people of New Zealand. They provide information about medium and long-term trends, risks and opportunities, and explore options on how best to respond. They are publicly consulted on and then the final Briefing is presented by the Minister to the House of Representatives. Select Committees may conduct an examination into the Briefing.

Proposed Topic

3. The first step of the LTIB development process is to publicly consult on the proposed topic. ERO's proposed topic is *Responding to Diverse Cultures: Schools' Practice*.
4. New Zealand society is changing. Demographic change and immigration are increasing our ethnic and cultural diversity. To ensure education meets the needs of all of children, New Zealand schools will need their practices to respond to increased diversity.
5. The LTIB will provide a clear picture of the increasing diversity in schools, understand the education experiences of students from diverse backgrounds and their whānau, and explore how schools can respond to increasing diversity.
6. There are many forms of diversity including ethnic, cultural, language, identity and religious. It is important that education responds to all forms of diversity. For this project we propose focusing on ethnic diversity and associated language, cultural and religious diversity. We are already looking at some other forms of diversity separately, for example, our work on education for disabled students. And in previous work have explored the challenges faced by LGBTIQ learners.
7. Our definition of ethnic communities is that defined by the Ministry of Ethnic Communities. Focusing on these communities sits alongside our first and primary commitment to Te Tiriti o Waitangi, and ensuring tamariki and Rangatahi Māori are strongly supported to learning and thrive in their culture, language and identity. This

research will complement EROs wide range of research and resources on good culturally responsive practice for Māori learners. We will look at the experiences of Māori and Pacific students who belong to multiple ethnic communities. We will also draw on learnings from successful culturally responsive practices for Māori students and Pacific communities and how they may help support a broader range of diverse students.

8. We will draw upon the rich data that already exists on diversity in New Zealand, including the 2018 Census, existing surveys, information about student destinations and Statistics New Zealand's population projections. We will hear directly from ethnically diverse students and their families about their experiences and from teachers and leaders about their practices.
9. We plan to look at four main questions:
 - a. How has diversity changed in schools and how will it change going forward?
 - b. What are the education experiences of diverse students and their whānau?
 - c. What is good practice in meeting the needs of learners from diverse backgrounds?
 - d. How can schools prepare for a more diverse future and how can they be supported?

Consultation and timeline

10. ERO intends to publish the attached brief consultation document (Appendix A) on our website on 2nd March 2022 and to consult on our topic for three weeks. We will send copies to key education and ethnic communities stakeholder groups for their information and input.
11. Following consultation, we will publish our decision on the final topic in early April. The proposed timeline for the project is:

April – July	Fieldwork
September	Draft report published for consultation
November	Report provided to Ministers

Recommendations

12. It is recommended that you:

- a) **Note** ERO's proposed Long Term Insights Briefing (LTIB) topic is *Responding to Diverse Cultures: Schools' Practice*. **Noted**
- b) **Note** ERO's plan to publish the LTIB topic for consultation on 2nd March 2022. **Noted**
- c) **Note** that the Education Review Office will release this briefing in full at the time of the consultation period. **Noted**
- d) **Indicate** if you want to discuss this briefing with officials. **Yes/No**



Nicholas Pole
Chief Executive

NOTED/APPROVED



Jan Tinetti
Associate Minister of Education

20, 02 , 2022