

Our Ref: OIA 23-101

11 July 2023

[REDACTED]  
[REDACTED]

Tēnā koe, [REDACTED]

**Re: An Evaluation of Service Academies**

I refer to your email dated 14 June 2023 to the Education Review Office requesting information under the Official Information Act 1982 as follows:

*information related to this ERO report: An Evaluation of Service Academies, September 2011*

<https://ero.govt.nz/sites/default/files/2021-05/An-Evaluation-of-Services-Academies-September-2011.pdf>

*[Noting] that the number of schools currently providing service academies is nearly double what it was in 2011.*

*1. Has there been any assessment of the uptake of the recommendations on pages 3 and 4? Please provide any documents, correspondence or other materials relating to each of the recommendations since 2011.*

*2. What reports on or evaluations of Service academies have been carried out by ERO and/or NZDF since 2011? Please provide copies.*

*If a new evaluation is proposed, please send me its terms of reference and likely reporting/publication date.*

*3. Why have some schools withdrawn from the Service academies scheme? Did they voluntarily withdraw or were they required to by ERO? If so, why?*

ERO's response to your request is as follows:

ERO evaluated the performance of the *Services Academies* based in 16 secondary schools across the country in 2011, as a group developing and publishing a single report. This followed the Ministry of Education (MOE) taking over the funding and oversight of the academies in June 2010.

Since 2011, ERO has not conducted an evaluation of service academies as a group, nor is a further evaluation of this type planned to date.

However, ERO has reviewed all of the schools within which the services academies are hosted. Reviews and evaluation of these schools consider all the provision for education that the school

offers all its students, including where relevant those who are part of services and other such academies.

ERO's reviews consider -

- how well the host schools (as with all schools) perform in all areas of education provision, and
- how effective schools facilitate student goal setting, assess of learning, monitor individual student progress and the development of programmes and curriculum that respond to students specific current and future learning needs.

Information about how well the individual schools that host services academies are performing can be found within their ERO reports on our website. [Review reports | Education Review Office \(ero.govt.nz\)](#)

In 2021 ERO changed the way it reviews all English medium schools, and more information can be found on our website: [How ERO reviews schools/kura \(English-medium\) | Education Review Office](#)

The 2011 report includes recommendations for the MOE. ERO suggest that the MOE themselves are best positioned to reply to your request about the uptake of the recommendations specifically identified for them.

In relation to point 3, this is connected more closely with the functions of the MOE, the government agency with oversight of service academies. They will also be able to provide you with the information regarding school's withdrawal of their service academies from the scheme. I am refusing your request under section 18(g) of the OIA as ERO does not hold this information, and ERO does not have the mandate to require schools to withdraw from the scheme. You have a right to seek an investigation and review by the Ombudsman. Information about how to make a complaint is available at [www.ombudsman.parliament.nz](http://www.ombudsman.parliament.nz) or freephone 0800 802 602

Thank you for contacting us.

Ngā mihi



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