



OIA Number: 24 - 158

08 February 2024

[REDACTED]
[REDACTED]

Dear [REDACTED]

Re: Official Information Act request for disinfection protocols – regulation and licensing criteria for Early Childhood Centres.

I refer to your email to the Education Review Office dated 05 February 2024 requesting information under the Official Information Act 1982 as follows:

- 1. Do the regulations for ECE's require the use of Bleach (Sodium Hypochlorite) in ECE's particularly around the nappy changing area and for disease outbreak control.*
- 2. Do the licensing criteria for centre-based ECE services require the use of Bleach (Sodium Hypochlorite) in ECE's particularly around the nappy changing area and for disease outbreak control*
- 3. Do the regulations for ECE's require the centre to follow the local Regional Public Health Group's disinfection and sanitation recommendations?*
- 4. Do the licensing criteria for centre-based ECE services require the centre to follow the local Regional Public Health Group's disinfection and sanitation recommendations?*
- 5. Does the fact that the Regional Public Health recommendations are recommendations, mean that they are not required to be followed but recommended to be followed?*
- 6. If these are not required to be followed, what requirements for disinfectant efficacy, manufacture quality, pathogen testing or studies of proof does a disinfectant require to be accepted throughout the licensing and audit process wfor centres with the ERO?*

We have transferred your request to the Ministry of Education. The information to which your request relates is not held by us but is believed to be held by the Ministry of Education. In these circumstances, we are required by section 14 of the OIA to transfer your request.

You will hear further from the Ministry of Education concerning your request.

Yours sincerely,

Patricia Davey
Director Early Childhood Education
Education Review Office | Te Tari Arotake Mātauranga
National Office | Tari Matua