



MANAAKITIA A TĀTOU TAMARIKI

**Children's
Commissioner**

Media Release, 26 September, 2018

For immediate release

If you were the boss of education in New Zealand, what would you do first?

Media contact

Chris Nichol

027 696 5101

c.nichol@occ.org.nz

“Everyone I meet has a strong view about education and what we can do to transform it”, says Andrew Becroft, Children’s Commissioner and the Chair of the Guardians of the Education Conversation.

The government’s multi-pronged conversation about the future of education is providing an opportunity for people of all ages to share their views with decision-makers.

There have already been 2 Summit events attended by around 1400 people. There’s also an online survey, Kōrero Mātauranga, which has already received 16,000 responses. But it’s due to close on October 14.

“While that’s a good response for an online survey, we’ve got to do a lot better for the future of our education system because education affects all of us, all of our children and all of our children’s children.

“Altogether that adds up to 0.37% of the population. Frankly we need to hear from more New Zealanders than that”, Commissioner Becroft says.

“We want everyone to have their say. Children, young people, parents, teachers, employers, iwi, families and whānau all have a place in the conversation about building not just a better education system, but the world’s best”, the Commissioner says.

The survey is a simple and open-ended one. All people need to do is answer four simple questions:

- What would you do if you were the boss of education?
- What does a successful student look like?
- What do they need to know and be able to do?
- And what do we have to put in place to make them successful?

The survey will be available online until October 14 at:

<https://consultation.education.govt.nz/education/korero-matauranga/>

“We want people to go online and fill it out. We want them to do it now and to tell their friends. We want everyone to have their say”, says Commissioner Becroft.

ENDS

About the Office of the Children's Commissioner

The Children's Commissioner is an Independent Crown Entity, appointed by the Governor-General, carrying out responsibilities and functions set out in the Children's Commissioner Act 2003. The Children's Commissioner has a range of statutory powers to promote the rights, health, welfare, and wellbeing of children and young people from 0 to 18 years. These functions are undertaken through advocacy, public awareness, consultation, research, and investigations and monitoring. The role includes specific functions in respect of monitoring activities completed under the Children, Young Persons and Their Families Act 1989. The Children's Commissioner also undertakes systemic advocacy functions and investigates particular issues with potential to threaten the health, safety, or wellbeing of children and young people. The Children's Commissioner has a particular responsibility to raise awareness and understanding of the United Nations Convention on the Rights of the Child.

The Children's Commissioner's activities must comply with the relevant provisions of the Public Finance Act 1989, Crown Entities Act 2004 and any other relevant legislation.