

Raising Achievement in Budget 2012

AT A GLANCE

- Budget 2012 will invest an extra \$511.9 million of operating funding in education over the next four years. This will be the fourth consecutive Budget that the National-led Government has increased education spending despite difficult fiscal times and a backdrop of the recent global financial crisis and the Canterbury earthquakes.
- This increase takes the Government's total investment in early childhood education and schooling to \$9.6 billion for 2012/13.
- The focus of this new investment is on raising achievement for all students. Budget 2012 commits an extra \$60 million over the next four years to boost new teacher and leadership recruitment and training. This money is in addition to the \$304 million we will already be spending on professional learning and development for teachers in primary and secondary education over the next four years.

By making this additional investment in quality teaching, the National-led Government will:

- ensure that initial teacher education is improved and strengthen mentoring and coaching.
- introduce a post-graduate qualification as a minimum for all trainee teachers.
- improve school leadership through the introduction of a new pre-principalship qualification.

Through our initiatives we want to create a flexible, skilled, culturally intelligent and professional workforce to support the development of teachers and principals.

 Budget 2012 also sets aside a contingency to cover the likely cost of settlement in negotiations for the collective employment agreements for teachers and principals. This signals further investment in the workforce, in addition to the existing cost of teacher and principal salaries which this year is \$3.69 billion.

- The Government is also keen to identify the teachers who are delivering successful teaching practice in our schools and make that common practice. To do this, the Government will collaborate in the development of an appraisal system focusing on driving up quality teaching and quality professional leadership. Performance pay is one of a basket of options to potentially reward and recognise that.
- To help fund the investment the Government is making in quality teaching there will be a small change to the teacher:student ratios that are used to fund schools.
- Actual class size is determined by schools, and each year they adjust classes to fit with the number of pupils they have that year.
- The ratio for new entrants in Year I will remain the same at 1:15. For students sitting NCEA in Years II-I3, the ratios currently vary but they will be standardised to a low of 1:17.3.
- In the mid-years 2-10, ratios currently range from between 1:23 to 1:29. These will be standardised to be 1:27.5 for all of these years.
- 90 per cent of schools will either gain, or have a net loss of less than one Full Time Teacher Equivalent (FTTEs) as a result of the combined effect of the ratio changes and projected roll growth. These changes will take effect over the next five years.
- Further details of the Government's continuing investment in education will be announced in Budget 2012.

Schooling year	Current ratios	Consistent ratios
Year I	1:15	1:15
Years 2-3 Years 4-6 Years 7-8 Years 9-10	1:23 1:29 1:29 1:23.5	1:27.5
Year II Year I2 Year I3	1:23 1:18 1:17	1:17.3

 From 2002 – 2012 student numbers have risen from 748,084 to 766,964 a 2.52% increase. During the same period the number of teachers has risen from 46,327 to 52,238 a 12.76% increase.