



Our Ref: OIA-26-446

22 June 2026

Dear [REDACTED]

Re: Official Information Act request for advice on homeschool

I refer to your email to the Education Review Office dated 24 May 2026 requesting the following information under the Official Information Act 1982 (OIA):

I am requesting copies of all reports, briefings, correspondence, emails, letters, aide memoires, meeting notes, and related documents provided to or received by Minister Erica Stanford from the Ministry of Education and/or the Education Review Office concerning:

- *homeschooling or home education regulation,*
- *proposed amendments to sections 5F and 51A of the Education and Training (System Reform) Amendment Bill,*
- *concerns relating to home education oversight,*
- *and any matters referenced by Minister Stanford in her 23 May 2026 1News interview, including references to this “serious concerns” and “urgent work” to “protect children”, and specifically the “Gloriavale cases”.*

This request specifically includes, but is not limited to:

- *any letters sent by the Education Review Office to Minister Stanford referenced in the interview;*
- *any Ministry of Education reports or briefings referenced in the interview;*
- *any assessments, risk analyses, recommendations, or policy advice relating to increased regulation-making powers over home education;*
- *any documents discussing Gloriavale in connection with homeschooling regulation;*
- *and any communications discussing urgency or rationale for introducing these amendments without prior consultation with home educator representative groups.*

Please include documents created, received, or circulated between 1 July 2025 and the date this request is processed.

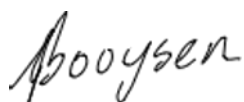
It is worth noting that ERO’s role is only to [review the provision of homeschooling](#), to judge whether students are taught at least as well as and as regularly as a registered or specialist school. The decision to grant the exemption necessary to homeschool, or to revoke it, rests solely with the Ministry of Education.

Regarding your request there are four documents in scope, which are detailed in the table below. The only information that has been withheld relates to the privacy of ERO staff or of children.

Date	Title	Release decision
20 November 2025	Briefing: Homeschooling background and operational observations	Released in part with some information withheld under section 9(2)(a) of the OIA.
17 December 2025	Letter: Home schooling concerns	Released in full.
17 December 2025	Letter: Gloriavale Homeschool Review – Provisional Findings	Released in part with some information withheld under section 9(2)(a) of the OIA.
10 March 2026	Information Update: Gloriavale Homeschooling Review – Final Findings and Assurance	Released in part with some information withheld under section 9(2)(a) of the OIA.

You have the right to seek an investigation and review by the Ombudsman of this decision. Information about how to make a complaint is available at <http://www.ombudsman.parliament.nz> or freephone 0800 802 602.

Ngā mihi,



Shelley Booyesen
DCE – Review and Improvement Services