

11 August 2025

Kia ora Pauline,

Thank you for taking the time to provide a comprehensive response to our recent letter. We are grateful for your detailed reply and appreciate the consideration you have given to the concerns we raised.

However, we note that several specific questions from our original correspondence remain unanswered, and we would respectfully request your response to these particular points:

**Public announcement regarding curriculum implementation timeline:** We asked that the Minister publicly announce there would be no significant changes in the teaching and reporting of literacy and maths curriculum until the training of principals and teachers has concluded. While you acknowledged that professional learning and development (PLD) has not been provided to leaders and needs to be, you did not indicate whether the Minister will make any change or public announcement regarding this timeline.

**Mandating of progress descriptors:** We sought clarification about whether the progress descriptors would be mandated. We have not received an answer to this question.

**Reporting requirements:** We asked that you convey to the Minister that it is untenable to expect us to report against the new curriculum until PLD has concluded and the necessary tools are available. You have not directly responded to this concern.

**Halting further curriculum work:** We also request that all work on refreshing other curriculum subjects for Years 0 - 8 be halted for 2026 and that a public announcement be made to that effect. Principals and teachers are already under immense pressure to make significant changes to two critical subject areas. Change Management Models are clear. To be successful, changes are made in a controlled manner, and each step is embedded before embarking on the next. In our case, that means embedding changes to Literacy and Mathematics before taking on changes to any further curriculum subjects.

We note the timeline that has been announced in the Bulletin on August 5, ensuring that senior secondary teachers and kaiako have enough time to implement new National Curriculum changes for Years 11 to 13 (Phase 5).

Following sector feedback, we are updating expectations for Phase 5 to create a phased roll-out of senior secondary subjects. The Years 11 to 13 curricula will be available in Term 1, 2026 to invite wider feedback and help build familiarisation and readiness. There will be no formal requirement to use this content until 2028 (for Year 11 content), 2029 (for Year 12 content), and 2030 (for Year 13 content)

The primary sector has repeatedly asked for the same, and we wonder why a similar timeline is not being applied for Years 0 - 8.

Thank you for your continued engagement on these important issues.

Ngā manaakitanga,

**Leanne Otene**  
NZPF President

