

Office of Hon Erica Stanford

Minister of Education
Minister of Immigration
Lead Coordination Minister for the Government's Response
to the Royal Commission's Report into Historical Abuse in
State Care and in the Care of Faith-based Institutions



05 OCT 2026

Substantive@fasttrack.govt.nz

Ref: GEMS - 50458

Tēnā koe,

Thank you for the opportunity to comment on the Ōhoka Residential Subdivision substantive application.

I am advised that the proposal comprises approximately 879 residential allotments, a retirement village of up to 250 units, and associated community infrastructure, to be delivered across 11 stages. The proposal does not include provision for a future school site.

The Ministry of Education considers it reasonable to assume the proposal could generate demand in the order of approximately 250 to 300 primary-aged students and 150 to 200 secondary-aged students over the life of the development. High-level analysis undertaken indicates there is scope to accommodate this growth through expansion of existing provision within the local school network, including at Ōhoka School and Kaiapoi High School.

The Ministry notes the importance of safe access to local schools and supports improvements to active transport connections between the proposed development and Ōhoka School, including upgrades to the Mills Road shared path.

Should the project proceed, further assessment would be required to understand detailed impacts on school planning, investment sequencing and any expansion of existing provision across the Waimakariri education network.

The Ministry would welcome engagement with the applicant through the Fast-track Approvals process to support this detailed education planning.

Nāku noa, nā

Hon Erica Stanford
Minister of Education