

Joint Schools Initiative Funding



Who will receive Joint Schools Initiative Funding (JSIF)?

- All Learning Community Clusters (LCC) in greater Christchurch that received students from closed or merged schools. This will include secondary schools that enrolled Year 7, 8 or 9 students from a closing or merging primary or intermediate.

Who "owns" the funding?

- The funding is "owned" by the entire LCC regardless of how the funding was generated. The LCC will decide on how to administer and use the funding.

How much will each cluster receive?

- Like the EDI funding, the amount received is generated by the number of students enrolled at 1 March within the LCC from closed or merged schools. Some clusters may not have access to JSIF funding, others will receive small amounts and others substantial amounts. Your Senior Adviser or ODA will advise each LCC of the level of JSIF funding available to them.

What should the JSIF be used for?

- The funding is intended to enhance educational outcomes through collaborative projects across the cluster. Although not all schools or centres may be included in a particular project decided on by the LCC, the JSIF project must include more than a single school. The LCC may decide to spend the funding on projects that have already been developed, or call for proposals from cluster members for additional projects.
- Alternatively, you could decide to combine with another cluster/s for a larger project.

How do we access the funding?

- The fund holder school will need to send the approved plan and a school invoice to the Senior Adviser or ODA, who will arrange payment to the school's account.
- Where large amounts are involved the LCC may decide to invoice for a proportion of the total cost eg. the cost for 12 months at a time, for a 3 year project. The cluster may also decide to allocate a portion of the fund as an administration fee for the fund holder school.

How might the LCC manage their funding?

- In cases where only small amounts are involved, the cluster might decide to access the total amount as soon as a project plan has been approved. This might be a project already underway.
- If your cluster is receiving larger amounts of JSIF that could be used for a number of projects, one option is to elect an evaluation panel or committee. The committee will review proposals, seek further information if required and approve or reject the application. If the cluster decides to implement this process, it is recommended that it is supported by clear criteria for approval.

Are there some examples of how JSIF has been used in the past?

JSIF has been used for:

- A Curriculum Leadership group – some teacher release for attendees, speaker fees
- Literacy Achievement – fees for someone to collate cluster data, workshops with literacy experts to interpret data, develop plans and provide support for teachers.

- Specialist teachers eg. Te reo and tikanga – conduct audit of each school, provide advice and resources to staff, liaise with Iwi.
- Seamless education – co-ordinator facilitated working groups, ECE/NE, Y6,7,8,9
- Additional behavioural specialist providing support for classroom teachers.
- Restorative justice for whole cluster.

How long do we have to access the money?

- Up to six years from the date of the implementation of the closure/merger. You might have a project that has several stages or plan strategically to have a variety of projects over a number of years within the six year period.

Will we need to report on the outcomes of our plans?

- The projects should be included in your LCC planning and be evaluated and reported on in the normal way.

SOME CRITICAL POINTS FOR YOU AND YOUR BOARDS TO CONSIDER WHEN PLANNING FOR THE USE OF JSIF FUNDING:

- Does the project fit with our overall strategic vision for the Learning Community Cluster?
- Is the project designed to strengthen educational outcomes across the cluster?
- Will this project lead to long term benefits for student achievement that will be evident when the money has been spent i.e. will we be able to see a legacy?