

What can I tell our students, staff and community – suggested wording

Key messages

Proposals for consultation

- » In September 2012 the Minister of Education announced the Government is investing \$1 billion into renewing the education sector in greater Christchurch, including the building or rebuilding of 15 new schools.
 - » As part of those new renewal plans the Minister also announced proposals to close or merge 38 schools. Two of those schools have since closed voluntarily.
 - » 31 schools provided feedback on their proposals in December, while five schools in the Aranui area were given until 7 March to submit their feedback because of the complexity of their proposal.
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Interim decisions

- » The Minister visited schools affected by the proposals and heard directly from parents, teachers and wider communities.
 - » The Minister considered the submissions she received in response to the initial proposals as well as information around earthquake damage, population movement and future population growth, building issues, school locations and what opportunities exist to create more modern schools, with great new facilities.
 - » On 18 February 2013, the Minister announced interim decisions for the 31 schools of the 38 schools.
 - » Schools then had until 28 March to provide feedback on the interim decision.
 - » Twelve schools have since accepted their interim decisions so those decisions are now final.
 - » The interim decision for the five Aranui schools was announced on 22 May. They have until 3 July to provide any further information or feedback before a final decision is made.
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May 29 announcement – new proposals

- » The Minister has continued to listen to parents and school communities and on 29 May announced final decisions for 16 schools.
- » The Minister also announced two new proposals which affect our school.
- » The two new proposals the Minister has initiated are:
 - a three-way merger between Central New Brighton School, Freeville School and North New Brighton School on the North New Brighton site
 - close Central New Brighton and finalise the interim decision to merge Freeville and North New Brighton.
- » Both are new proposals so further consultation will be required.



- » The decision to merge Freeville School and North New Brighton School will be deferred while a decision is made on one of these two proposals.
- » A summary of all of the Minister's decisions announced on 29 May is available on the Shaping Education website at www.shapingeducation.govt.nz

What happens next?

- » Boards at the three schools have until 10 July to provide feedback on these two proposals.
- » Following a final decision on one of the proposals, it will be effective from May 2014.

Support available

- » All affected schools have been given information they can share with staff, parents and communities.

Further information is available at www.shapingeducation.govt.nz or phone **0800 746 338**.

Wording that can be used and adapted for newsletters, emails, websites and so on

In September last year the Minister of Education initiated consultation about the proposed merger or closure of 38 schools, as part of the greater Christchurch education renewal process. Our school was affected by this proposal and we put together a submission to the Minister in December 2012 in response to the proposal. As you will be aware on 18 February this year the Minister announced an interim decision for our school and gave us until 28 March to provide any further feedback.

On 29 May the Minister announced final decisions for 16 schools. The Minister also announced that our school will be subject to two new proposals. The two new proposals initiated are:

- » a three-way merger between Central New Brighton School, Freeville School and North New Brighton School
- » close Central New Brighton and finalise the interim decision to merge Freeville and North New Brighton.

Both are new proposals so further consultation will be required.

We now have until 10 July to provide feedback on these two proposals.

Our Board is carefully considering the two new proposals and will be discussing our next steps over the next few days.

Following a final decision on one of the proposals, it will be effective from May 2014.

Further information about the decisions announced on 29 May is available on the *Shaping Education* website www.shapingeducation.govt.nz

