

Canterbury Regional News

22 May 2017

Kia ora,

Congratulations to Halswell School who are finalists in the Excellence in Teaching and Learning category of the Prime Minister's Education Excellence Awards. Finalists show a commitment to make a lasting difference for all young people; again congratulations and good luck at the awards ceremony in July.

I would like to take the opportunity to share some information on the Christchurch Multicultural Strategy launch that I attended last weekend. The Christchurch City Council has developed a Multicultural Strategy to support and embrace the diversity of the people in Ōtautahi/Christchurch and its main goal is to ensure all residents feel like they belong and are welcome in the city.

The Council wants to lead the city in the benefits of a multicultural society and be a place where everybody is respected and accepted. The strategy was created in partnership with leaders from the wider community including the Ministry of Education. You can download the full [Multicultural Strategy \[PDF, 1.6 MB\]](#) that outlines the key features.

Associate Education Minister Louise Upston officially opened the new building at Rangiora High School recently. The redevelopment provides the school with new innovative learning environments that staff and students have been using since the beginning of this term. I have included the Minister's press statement later in this newsletter and there is a lovely video posted from [Radio New Zealand's Checkpoint](#) on the new learning spaces at the high school.

Those of you who have visited our new office will be aware of the road works going on around our building, so please allow extra time for travel, car-parking and reception check-in. Our building offers a great opportunity when you are in the city to work from our office on level 1. The space has a variety of work spaces, tea, coffee, toilets and WiFi. There is no need to confirm with us, just feel free to visit.

Mā te wā,

Coralanne Child

Director of Education for Canterbury



Creating an education network that inspires children to reach their full potential.

Education Act Update

The Education Act Update officially became law on 19 May 2017 and information is posted on the [Ministry website](#) including

- What the Act is designed to do
- How the Act works (its main provisions)
- When the Act's various provisions become law
- How we will be supporting you with the implementation of the Act's various provisions
- Your rights as a parent, family or whānau member under the Act
- How you can help build the future education system for all our children and young people by taking part in the consultations and discussions scheduled on some of the Act's provisions.

We will be updating the information on these pages regularly between now and 2020, as all the parts of the Act take effect. There are also Education Act Update experts who will be able to assist with any questions. You can contact them by emailing your questions to: EdAct.Update@education.govt.nz

I can assure you that as a team we are keen to assist you in any way that we can. As more information comes to hand, we will share it with you.

Reminder - An introduction into school financing seminar

This seminar is aimed at those who seek a basic to intermediate understanding and would be beneficial to school support administrators, or new board of trustee's officers who wish to have a broad knowledge of this topic.

Friday, 9 June

10am-12pm

Ministry of Education, Christchurch, Te Urutī, Level 1, 48 Hereford St

Registrations are essential and can be forwarded to Alex.Dieudonne@education.govt.nz - we look forward to seeing you.

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Ministry of Education



Putting children at the centre of their learning

Rangiora High's \$14.9m redevelopment opened

Media Statement 09 May 2017, Associate Minister of Education Louise Upston

Associate Minister of Education Louise Upston has today officially opened Rangiora High School's new \$14.9 million facilities.

"Today marks a significant milestone in the redevelopment of Rangiora High School to support the delivery of innovative teaching and meet the future needs of its community," Ms Upston says.

Rangiora High School experienced growth for several years prior to a sudden increase in student numbers associated with the Christchurch earthquakes. It also had a large number of relocatable classrooms that were reaching the end of their lifespan.

This project provides the school 26 new innovative teaching spaces that replace ageing facilities and extend the school's overall capacity.

"A priority for this Government is investing in a targeted way to deliver the types of environments that support young people to learn and achieve," Ms Upston says.

"A key focus in recent years has been addressing complex property issues for schools in areas of growth. To get the best return on our investment we have used a programme of major redevelopments to help schools address highly complex property issues, modernise aging infrastructure, and extend accommodation in line with projected growth.

"This approach delivers cost efficiencies, reduces disruptions to school activities, and considers the long-term needs of the school," Ms Upston says.

