










ANSWERS:
EDUCATION
SPENDING

#EducatedVote17

2. Government Education Spending

What will you do?	To ensure early childhood centres, schools and tertiary institutions have the budget they need to meet the learning and development needs of all children students?
	<p>ACT is open to increasing per-student education funding. However, quality of education is not only about money. National and Labour governments have spent billions and have barely dented the problem. To have an education system that works for every child we need to trust teachers to make teaching decisions, trust principals and boards of trustees to run their schools and trust parents to choose the best school for their child. ACT believes that the state should fund a range of schools, letting kids and parents choose what is right for them. An approach that works for one student may not work for another. Let's celebrate diversity in educational approaches, not 'one-size-fits-all' thinking. Let's engage every student.</p>
	<p>The Green Party supports an immediate increase in the education budget. The operations grant needs to receive an at least 10% increase immediately and we support Labour's commitment to a major investment in education funding. This includes the pledge we have signed for restoring ECE funding and centralised funding for school support staff. We have made a specific announcement of \$315 million for inclusive education.</p>
	<p>Labour will invest an extra \$4b over four years, including \$1.8b for more teachers, better professional development, more learning resources, and to meet rising costs. We will invest in initiatives to improve the quality of education, and make it more accessible and affordable. We will reinstate extra funding for ECE centres that employ 100% qualified and registered teachers. We will require all ECE centres to employ at least 80% qualified teachers by the end of our first term. We will actively support new public early childhood centres in areas of low-provision through targeted establishment grants.</p> <p>We will ensure that schooling is genuinely free by offering an extra \$150 per student to state and state-integrated schools that don't ask parents for donations. We will establish a comprehensive plan to ensure that all school students have access to mobile digital devices. We will also rebuild outdated and worn-out school buildings so that every school has modern classrooms by 2030. We will unfreeze school funding and fund school support staff salaries through a central funding system, as we do for teacher salaries.</p> <p>We will make tertiary education and training affordable for all by: Increasing living costs support with a \$50 a week boost to student allowances and a \$50 a week lift to the maximum that can be borrowed for living costs; restoring post-graduate students' eligibility for student allowances; restoring the eligibility of students in long courses, such as medicine, to access student allowances or loans</p>

	beyond seven years FTE study; accelerating the three years' free policy, starting with one year fees-free FTE for everyone starting tertiary education or training for the first time from 1 January 2018, and extending this to three years' free by 2024.
What will you do?	To ensure early childhood centres, schools and tertiary institutions have the budget they need to meet the learning and development needs of all children students?
	The Māori Party believes education is a life-long journey and should be accessible to all whānau. It should also be learner-centred and whānau-driven. It should provide opportunities for students to acquire skills and knowledge that can be used to their economic, social and cultural advantage. We will advocate for funding thresholds to meet industry demand.
	Every year we've been in government we have increased Vote Education - up by 41% since 2008/09, to \$11.6 billion. This year's Budget saw nearly \$1.5 billion over four years. It's fair to say, going by our record, that there will be continued increases in funding for education. No other OECD country spends a higher percentage of its public funding on education. Investing in 21st century learning environments has seen the school property spend exceed \$5bn. School funding has also increased at a faster rate than inflation – up 16.8% cumulatively from 2010 to 2016 compared to a 10.9% increase in CPI inflation.
	New Zealand First has made a commitment to revalue the New Zealand curriculum to ensure that it is priced at a level that reflects the delivery methods expected and required. With Art, for example, the curriculum was originally priced out with pastel and paper but now the majority of art boards are done with colour copying which has raised the cost to schools substantially and many are passing the cost onto the student as “take home content”.
	The Opportunity Party's priority is to invest earlier, in early childhood education with the aim of free, full-time early childhood education with a particular focus on improving quality in poorer areas. We will reduce assessment, giving more time for teaching and learning. TOP will delay National Standards until Year 6 and delay NCEA until a student's final year of school when they will have the choice of sitting NCEA Level 1, 2 or 3. We will encourage greater mixing by stopping the comparison of schools on assessment results or deciles, and encouraging people to use their local school. We will save money to reinvest in education by getting schools to cooperate by merging administrative functions with other schools in the region. Special education needs reallocating on the basis of true need, which will probably create calls for more funding.