



Education Review Office
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Our ref: OIA 18 – 57

26 November 2019

Callum and Victoria Turnbull

Email:

Dear Callum and Victoria

Formal Complaint against Jeremy France – Request for the ERO 2016 Ruru Specialist School Report to be withdrawn.

I refer to your letter of 13 November 2019 in response to my letter of 7 November regarding the above matter.

It is my judgement that the matters you have raised have been given sufficient consideration. Following the Ombudsman's recommendations, ERO instituted systems to ensure it is appropriately aware of complaints received by schools and their management, and that any complaint investigated by the Ministry of Education is brought to ERO's attention promptly. Schools are now as a matter of routine asked specifically about significant complaints and review teams check and record how schools manage students. A process has also been instituted whereby ERO and the Ministry discuss all interests associated with a school's review.

Given the time which has elapsed since the events you refer to I do not believe further investigation of these matters would change the resultant judgements which ERO formed in its 2016 report on Ruru Specialist School. As I mentioned in my letter of 7 November 2019, the next review of Ruru Specialist School will be undertaken early next year. The review will include the extent to which the school is providing a safe emotional and physical environment for students and how well the Ministry's recommendations are being sustained. The resulting report from our review will be published and will in effect replace the 2016 assessment.

In respect of Mr France sharing details with Erin Cairns, the Ruru School Principal with regard to your complaint. In terms of our observing the principles of natural justice it is ERO's practice to share such allegations with the parties implicated in order to provide them with an opportunity to respond.

Yours sincerely

Nicholas Pole
Chief Executive and Chief Review Officer
Education Review Office