



Thank you for your email dated 22 August 2017, to the Ministry of Education requesting the following information:

- *Any correspondence / reports from Marshall Day Acoustics since 2014 regarding issues and/or concerns into the design of ILEs and the effect on children's learning.*

Your request has been considered under the Official Information Act 1982 (the Act).

We want all students to enjoy comfortable, healthy learning environments. We know that good acoustics is essential for health, wellbeing and good learning and our guidance sets out the standards that all education providers are expected to comply with. We work hard with schools and construction teams to ensure the acoustics in innovative learning environments meet our requirements. An updated Designing Quality Learning Spaces acoustics guideline, with minimum mandatory requirements for learning spaces, was introduced in September 2016 to support modern teaching practices. These design standards are available here: <https://education.govt.nz/assets/Documents/Primary-Secondary/Property/School-property-design/Flexible-learning-spaces/DQLS-AcousticsV2.0.pdf>

We have identified two reports that fall within the scope of your request. These reports, from 15 January 2016 and 16 January 2017, were prepared by Marshall Day Acoustics for the Ministry of Education and relate to Rototuna Junior High School. Copies of the reports are attached to this response.

Following the report on 15 January 2016, the Ministry took on board the findings from Marshall Day Acoustics' testing results and completed the acoustic remediation works at the School in late 2016. The work was undertaken to reduce reverberation and the sound levels within the upgraded spaces to fit within the revised Ministry of Education Designing Quality Learning Spaces: Acoustic (DQLS) guidelines.

The second report from 16 January 2017 outlines post remedial testing performed by Marshall Day Acoustics on 12 January 2017. Rototuna Junior High School have raised no further issues relating to noise since the completion of the remedial works.

Please note, the Ministry now proactively publishes OIA responses on our website. As such, we may publish this response on our website after five working days. Your name and contact details will be removed.

Thank you again for your email. If you have further questions please feel free to contact our media team in the first instance at [media.team@education.govt.nz](mailto:media.team@education.govt.nz). If you are unsatisfied with my response, you have the right to ask an Ombudsman to review it. You can do this by writing to [info@ombudsman.parliament.nz](mailto:info@ombudsman.parliament.nz) or Office of the Ombudsman, PO Box 10152, Wellington 6143.

Yours sincerely



Kim Shannon  
**Head of Education Infrastructure Service**