



27 June 2019



Dear 

Thank you for your email of 29 May 2019 to the Ministry of Education requesting the following information:

1. *How many times has your agency/ department been hacked?*
2. *How many times has an attempt at a hack been detected at your agency/ department?*
3. *What are you doing to secure your systems to make sure you're secure?*
4. *Have you received any instructions to increase your security?*

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

***How many times has your agency/department been hacked?***

Hacking is an ongoing and persistent threat for any entity with an internet-facing presence. We have no recorded evidence of a successful external hack.

***How many times has an attempt at a hack been detected at your agency/ department?***

Internet facing agency systems are constantly exposed to hacking attempts. While we protect and monitor these systems we do not keep long term records of the number of attempted hacking attacks.

***What are you doing to secure your systems to make sure you're secure?***

We have a programme to continuously review our cyber security, aligned with recommended security frameworks.

***Have you received any instructions to increase your security?***

We were directed by Cabinet in December 2014 to implement the Protective Security Requirements. You can read more about these requirements at the following site: <https://protectivesecurity.govt.nz/>.

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



Zoe Griffiths  
**Deputy Secretary**  
**Business Enablement and Support**