



New Zealand

Carter Chris
Minister of Education



Hon Chris Carter is Minister of Education, Minister Responsible for the Education Review Office, Minister for Ethnic Affairs and the Labour MP for Te Atatu, a diverse urban constituency in West Auckland. Chris holds a Masters Degree in History (with Honours) and a teaching qualification from the Auckland College of Education. He began his schoolteaching career at Tamaki Intermediate School, moving to Kelston Boys High School before spending time in the UK as a supply teacher at London's Borough of Hounslow. From the early 1980s until 1992, Chris held a number of senior teaching positions including deputy principal of Arohanui Special School in Te Atatu and Tirimoana Primary School. He was first elected to Parliament in 1993.

Inclusive education for the 21st century

Kia ora tatou

We face a lot of change in our lifetime. Our societies are growing more diverse, the skill needs of national economies are changing, and the global knowledge marketplace continues to develop. It is important that our education systems continue to adapt and respond to these changes.

As we look to the future, we need to ensure our education systems meet the needs of all learners – with our systems supporting the needs of learners, rather than learners having to fit into the system.

From the early foundations through to lifelong learning, it is imperative that there are opportunities across the education system for everyone to engage. Through a focus on teacher professional development, the use of new technologies, exploring modes of delivery and using different learning spaces we can nurture environments in which learners can thrive.

In New Zealand we continue to develop our world-leading education system so that it equips all New Zealanders with the knowledge, skills and values to be successful citizens in the 21st century. Our revised national curriculum, our Māori education strategy Ka Hikitea, and our national assessments the National Certificates of Educational Achievement have all been designed to engage learners.

The same inclusive values promoted in the New Zealand Disability Strategy are central to our approach towards educating young people with special learning needs. We want all children welcomed in their local school ensuring life opportunities are enhanced throughout their schooling.

A holistic, inclusive approach to education is the key to ensuring that 21st century learners have the skills, values and knowledge they need to succeed in this interconnected world.

Naku noa, na