

18 May 2026

s9(2)(a)

Tēnā koe

Thank you for your email, received on 23 April 2026, to Oranga Tamariki—Ministry for Children (Oranga Tamariki) requesting information regarding Bangerz Education. Your request has been considered under the Official Information Act 1982 (the Act).

I have responded to each part of your request below.

All communications between Oranga Tamariki and Bangerz Education and Wellbeing Trust (BEWT) relating to the proposed charter school.

Any notes, reports, or assessments arising from those engagements.

Any communications referring to the Trust or its proposal internally within OT.

Please include the names and roles of staff involved, and the people OT staff met with.

We have not identified any material held by Oranga Tamariki in scope of these parts of your request. As such, this part of your request is refused under section 18(e) of the Act that the information requested does not exist or, despite reasonable efforts to locate it, cannot be found.

Records of any visits by OT staff to BEWT premises.

Please include the names and roles of staff involved, and the people OT staff met with.

Oranga Tamariki were made aware of concerns around operations of the Trust at ‘the Hub’, which is the premises of the Trust. This includes the Hub providing shelter to rangatahi overnight on the premises. Please note, this has no relation of the charter school proposal you have referenced in your request.

On 2 December 2025, Oranga Tamariki engaged with the Trust and had an initial conversation, and further hui between the founders of the Trust, the local Youth Justice Manager and local Oranga Tamariki site managers. The purpose of the hui was to ensure a dialogue between the parties so that the Trust’s first call is to Oranga Tamariki

who can assist the trust when support is needed for any rangatahi turning up at the Hub.

Similar questions have been responded to through written parliamentary questions to the Minister for Children. You can find questions to Ministers and associated replies on the New Zealand Parliament website [here](#). Please use the filtering tabs to search the following Question numbers, in the year 2025:

- 54988
- 54991
- 55002
- 58675

Oranga Tamariki may make the information contained in this letter available to the public by publishing this on our website with any personal details removed.

Should you have any concerns with this response, I would encourage you to raise them with Oranga Tamariki. Alternatively, you are advised of your right to also raise any concerns with the Office of the Ombudsman. Information about this is available at www.ombudsman.parliament.nz or by contacting them on 0800 802 602.

Nāku noa, nā



Simon Harding
Chief Advisor, Tamariki and Whānau Services