

The Beginning Teachers Project

The Auckland Primary Principals' Association (APPA) and the Ministry of Education (the Ministry) are undertaking a Beginning Teacher Project (the project) – this is one part of the \$9 million package that the Hon Hekia Parata announced in August 2016 to boost the number of teachers in high-demand subjects and locations.

This two year project will follow 40 new or provisionally registered primary teachers (PRTs) employed in schools in the Auckland Education Region in year 0-4 classes from the beginning of Term 1 2017.

The project will support these teachers through to full certification, help to ease supply pressures for the schools involved and improve what we know of the factors that build retention early in a teaching career. The lessons learned from this project could go on to benefit primary schools more widely across New Zealand.

Features of the Scheme

- Participating schools will commit to employing beginning teachers or PRTs from the start of the 2017 school year, with an induction period of up to six months where they 'shadow' an expert junior teacher until roll growth allows them to take leadership of their own class.
- Participating schools will commit to providing induction and mentoring over the two year period and to employing the Beginning Teacher or PRT in a permanent or fixed term position (two year minimum) to enable them to meet the criteria for full certification.
- The Ministry will pay \$24K in cash to each participating school to cover the first two terms of 2017.
- Participating Beginning Teachers or PRTs will commit to teaching continuously in the school that recruits them for at least two years, enabling them to meet the criteria for full certification.
- Both schools and teachers will also commit to participating fully in an evaluation of the project.
- APPA and the Ministry will promote the project to attract as many applicants as possible to roles that are advertised by participating Auckland Primary schools.