The Ka Ora, Ka Ako | Healthy School Lunch Programme aims to reduce food insecurity by providing a daily nutritious lunch to students in needs of the greatest support to help them learn and thrive at school or kura.

Ka Ora, Ka Ako is targeted at the top 25% of students in schools and kura facing the greatest socio-economic barriers. At the beginning of Term 1 2025, the programme was extended to up to 10,000 2-to-5-year-olds in early learning services.

**Funding**

The following table shows the funded cost for Ministry of Education from 2023/24 to 2026/27.

|  |  |  |  |  |
| --- | --- | --- | --- | --- |
| **Baseline** | **2023/24** | **2024/25** | **2025/26** | **2026/27** |
| Non-departmental output expense | 284,574,481 | 245,995,608 | 232,203,000 | 116,102,000 |
| Departmental output expense  (funding up to Dec 26) | 6,851,365 | 5,987,479 | 5,908,000 | 2,981,000 |
| Non-departmental capital expenditure  (funding up to Dec 26) | 554,628 | 374,094 | 600,000 | 300,000 |

**Indicators of performance**

The following table tracks the performance indicators for Ka Ora, Ka Ako.

|  |  |  |  |  |
| --- | --- | --- | --- | --- |
| **Performance indicator** | **Standard** | **2022/23** | **2023/24** | **2024/25** |
| Percentage of schools in the programme that are provided with the required lunches through managed contracts | 98% | 100% | 99.70% | 99.20% |

More information about the programme can be found on this [link](https://www.education.govt.nz/education-professionals/schools-year-0-13/healthy-school-lunches/ka-ora-ka-ako-healthy-school-lunches-about-programme).