



Riversdale School (4007) –New Enrolment Scheme
July 2025
Summary of Response to Feedback

30.07.2025

Theme	Comment	Response
Community connections	Some respondents identified with the Riversdale community through sports, social activities, services and education. They saw Riversdale as their social hub in the Wendon area.	Community identity is important, alongside this the Ministry needs to consider the proximity of students to local schools and balancing enrolments across schools in the network.
Historical attendance patterns	Comments included traditionally some families from the Wendon area attended Riversdale School rather than Otama School. This was contributed to other family members attending Riversdale and past school bus routes in the area.	Riversdale School is experiencing growth, and the enrolment scheme is designed to prevent overcrowding. This means some areas that historically attended Riversdale School may now fall outside the home zone to ensure the school remains within its capacity.
Accessible educational opportunities	Riversdale School was preferred due to its larger size compared to Otama School which was not seen as desirable due to its smaller roll.	Small schools play an important role especially in rural areas. The size of a school doesn't necessarily equate to lower quality education.
Transport	Families expressed concern on the logistical challenges of transporting their children to school or to bus stops.	<p>The alignment with the Transport Eligibility Zone (TEZ) was considered, however, the Enrolment Scheme (ES) home zone is designed primarily to manage school capacity. The TEZ serves a different purpose which is transport eligibility to a student's closest school based on transport policy.</p> <p>Where two neighbouring schools have enrolment schemes the ES zone interacts with the TEZ as below;</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none">1. If a student is in a school's ES home zone but outside their TEZ, will get transport as it is the student's closest school they can enrol at.2. If a student is outside of a school's ES home zone but in its TEZ, will get transport if accepted as an out of zone student.

		Where one school had an ES and one did not have an ES, the home zone would be aligned to the midpoint between the schools as transport would default to the TEZ.
Boundaries	Concerns included siblings being split between different schools if a zone was introduced, specific roads were suggested to be included	If the school has out of zone places, it can advertise for enrolments outside of its home zone. Siblings of current students are top of the priority list for out of zone students if the school does not have a special programme.