**Submission template**

**Exposure draft of Education (Early Childhood Services) Amendment Regulations 2025**

**Instructions**

The Ministry of Education is releasing the Education (Early Childhood Services) Amendment Regulations 2025 for consultation.

These amendment regulations will provide the Director of Regulation (a new statutory role) with a new set of graduated enforcement tools and public notification provision and will lift the threshold for licence suspensions and cancellations. These changes will ensure a more proportionate approach to enforcing compliance.

During consultation, we are seeking feedback on whether the amendment regulations are clear and easy to understand and what impact they may have on different stakeholders. We’d like to hear from the early learning sector, whānau, caregivers, and others who care about the tamariki and mokopuna of Aotearoa New Zealand.

This template can be used to submit a response to the exposure draft of Education (Early Childhood Services) Amendment Regulations 2025. Consultation on the amendment regulations will close at 11.59pm on Sunday 19 October 2025.

You may comment on **any or all** of the sections in this template. You can provide as much or as little feedback as you choose when submitting your response.

Once complete, please send your submission to: ECE.Regulations@education.govt.nz

**Privacy statement**

#### Collecting personal information

We are not seeking personal information, though we realise that such information may be provided in answers to questions which allow free-text responses. Any personal information which is collected will be anonymized and all reports will use aggregated information.

#### Publishing submissions

We may publish a summary of the feedback we receive from this consultation. This will include aggregated information only. This will not include your personal information, even if you voluntarily provide that information to us. We will only publish your submission with your permission.

#### Privacy notice

This privacy notice applies to personal and other information collected as part of this consultation. Our privacy policy is governed by the Privacy Act 2020.

We will keep your personal information secure if you voluntarily provide that information. Any personal information supplied will only be used for the purpose for which it was provided or permitted by the Privacy Act 2020. Your personal information will not be disclosed to any third party except where necessary for the provision of services, or as authorised or required by law.

If you want to check personal information that we hold, or request the correction of that information when required, please write to:

*The Privacy Officer*

*Ministry of Education*

*PO Box 1666*

*Wellington 6140*

or email privacy@education.govt.nz

**Relevant legislation**

Your submission may be subject to the Official Information Act 1982, the Privacy Act 2020, and the Public Records Act 2005. These laws cover how we handle, manage and share protected personal information given in confidence. We will never release an individual’s personal information or contact details without their permission.

**Your submission**

**Before completing this submission template, please confirm that you have read and understand the privacy statement.**

[ ]  I have read and understand the privacy statement.

**This section of your submission is about you. We ask these questions to better understand from whom we have heard. These questions are optional, but your responses are appreciated.**

1. In making your consultation submission today, are you representing the views of:

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| [ ]  Yourself, as an individual (e.g. teacher, community member, or academic) | [ ]  Yourself, as a representative of an ECE organisation or peak body |
| [ ]  Yourself, as a parent, caregiver, or whānau | [ ]  Yourself, as the owner of an ECE service provider |
| [ ]  Yourself, as the manager of an ECE service provider | [ ]  Yourself, as a qualified ECE teacher |
| [ ]  Yourself, as other teaching staff (e.g. education support worker or student teacher) | [ ]  An organisation (e.g. a charity, advocacy, or community group) |
| [ ]  Something else |  |

1. If relevant, what is the name of the organisation or early childhood education service you represent?

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| [*If relevant, provide your organisation/service name here*] |

1. If relevant, what type of early childhood education service(s) does your submission relate to?

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| [ ]  Education and care (Puna Reo) | [ ]  Education and care (other)  |
| [ ]  Kōhanga Reo  | [ ]  Kindergarten  |
| [ ]  Home-based | [ ]  Hospital-based  |
| [ ]  Playcentre | [ ]  Playgroup  |
| [ ]  Prefer not to say  | [ ]  None  |
| [ ]  Other (*please specify*):  |

1. Are your responses about early childhood education service(s) in a specific region?

[ ]  Yes [ ]  No

1. If yes, please select the region to which your submission relates:

|  |  |
| --- | --- |
| [ ]  Northland region | [ ]  Auckland region |
| [ ]  Waikato region | [ ]  Bay of Plenty region  |
| [ ]  Gisborne region | [ ]  Hawke’s Bay region |
| [ ]  Taranaki region | [ ]  Manawatū-Whanganui region |
| [ ]  Wellington region | [ ]  Tasman-Nelson region  |
| [ ]  Marlborough region | [ ]  West Coast region |
| [ ]  Canterbury region | [ ]  Otago region  |
| [ ]  Southland region | [ ]  Prefer not to say |
| [ ]  Other  |  |

**The following sections seek your feedback on the Education (Early Childhood Services) Amendment Regulations 2025. You will need to have the Amendment Regulations to hand, these are provided on our website:** [Have your say - Ministry of Education](https://www.education.govt.nz/have-your-say/education-early-childhood-services-amendment-regulations-2025/details).

**You do not need to answer every question. You are welcome to provide as much or as little feedback as you choose.**

**Section 4: Regulation 15 amended (Director of Regulation may reclassify licence as provisional licence**

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| * + Is the new threshold for reclassification clear and easy to understand?
	+ Do you have any suggested changes to the wording of these amendments?
	+ What implementation considerations (if any) do you think need to be made for these amendments?
	+ What unintended consequences (if any) do you think could arise from these amendments?
	+ What impact (if any) do you think these amendments will have for the health and safety of children attending and participating in ECE?
	+ Do you have any other feedback about these amendments?
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| [*Please provide your feedback on section 4 here*]  |

**Section 5: Regulation 16 amended (Conditions of provisional licence)**

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| * + Are the amendments to regulation 16(1A), (2), and (2B) clear and easy to understand?
	+ Do you have any suggested changes to the wording of these amendments?
	+ What implementation considerations (if any) do you think need to be made for these amendments?
	+ Do you think this amendment will provide more certainty for service providers around regulatory requirements and reduce administrative burden?
	+ Do you think this amendment will support transparency for parents and whānau about a service provider's current state of regulatory compliance?
	+ Do you have any other feedback about these amendments?
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| [*Please provide your feedback on section 5 here*]  |

**Section 6: Regulation 17 amended (Duration of provisional licence)**

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| * + Are the amendments to regulation 17(2)(a) and (4)(a) clear and easy to understand?
	+ Do you have any suggested changes to the wording of these amendments?
	+ What implementation considerations (if any) do you think need to be made for these amendments?
	+ Do you have any other feedback about these amendments?
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| [*Please provide your feedback on section 6 here*]  |

**Section 7: New regulations 29A to 29F and crossheading inserted**

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| * + Are the graduated enforcement tools set out in regulations 29A to 29E clear and easy to understand?
	+ Is the public notice of non-compliance as set out in regulation 29F clear and easy to understand?
	+ Do you have any suggested changes to the wording of these amendments?
	+ What implementation considerations (if any) do you think need to be made for these amendments?
	+ What impact (if any) do you think these amendments will have for the health and safety of children attending and participating in ECE?
	+ Do you have any other feedback about these amendments?
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| [*Please provide your feedback on section 7 here*]  |

**Section 8: Regulation 30 amended (Suspension of licences)**

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| * + Is the new threshold for the suspension of licences clear and easy to understand?
	+ Do you have any suggested changes to the wording of these amendments?
	+ What implementation considerations (if any) do you think need to be made for these amendments?
	+ What impact (if any) do you think these amendments will have for the health and safety of children attending and participating in ECE?
	+ Do you have any other feedback about these amendments?
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| [*Please provide your feedback on section 8 here*]  |

**Section 10: Regulation 39A amended (Powers of Director of Regulation in exceptional circumstances)**

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| * + Is the power of the Director to extend the date for compliance with the specified enforcement tools, as set out in regulation 39A(3)(f), clear and easy to understand?
	+ What implementation considerations (if any) do you think need to be made for these amendments?
	+ What unintended consequences (if any) do you think could arise from these amendments?
	+ Do you have any other feedback about these amendments?
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| [*Please provide your feedback on section 10 here*]  |

**Section 12: New regulation 59A inserted (Director may give public notice, or inform parents and caregivers of, investigation of complaint or incident)**

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| * + Is the power of the Director to give public notice, or inform parents and caregivers clear and easy to understand?
	+ Do you have any suggested changes to the wording of this amendment?
	+ What implementation considerations (if any) do you think need to be made for these amendments?
	+ What unintended consequences (if any) do you think could arise from these amendments?
	+ Do you think this amendment will increase transparency for parents and caregivers about investigations into complaints or incidents that are undertaken by the Director of Regulation?
	+ What impact (if any) do you think these amendments will have for the health and safety of children attending and participating in ECE?
	+ Do you have any other feedback about this amendment?
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| [*Please provide your feedback on section 12 here*]  |

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