



School Property

Budget 2026 | Fact sheet

Budget 2026 provides \$491.9 million capital expenditure (capex) and \$66.6 million operating expenditure (opex) over four years to grow and maintain the education property portfolio.

Key initiatives

- **\$334.3 million** will grow and expand the English and Kaupapa Māori Education property portfolio to add hundreds of new classrooms for thousands of students.
- **\$164.8 million** will go towards maintaining and upgrading the portfolio, including learning support modifications.

Initiative	Funding	Facts
School Property – growing and expanding the property portfolio	\$309.6 million capex \$24.7 million opex	This will increase capacity in the school network, building new schools and classrooms. Funding will be allocated across priority new school projects, land acquisition, and adding additional capacity in English and Kaupapa Māori schools and Learning Support.
School Property – maintaining and upgrading the portfolio	\$160 million capex \$4.8 million opex	This provides additional capital funding to maintain and upgrade the school property portfolio. The funding delivers: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • redevelopments to bring schools in critical need up to standard, • property modifications to provide students with equitable access to education. These include purchase/installation of automatic doors, lifts, fencing, hoists and bathroom modifications, and • improved drinking water quality for some self-supplied schools.
School Property – operating cost pressures	\$25 million opex	This provides funding in response to increased costs to operate the school property portfolio, such as lease and building warrant of fitness costs. Funding is time-limited to allow for the new operating model within the New Zealand School Property Agency to take effect.
Stafford v Attorney-General Litigation Resolution Agreement	\$22.3 million capex \$12.1 million opex	This provides funding to address implementation costs for the Ministry of Education arising from the resolution agreement for the Stafford v Attorney-General High Court case.