



early learning information system

National Student Numbers in Early Childhood Education

The Ministry of Education is improving the quality of information held for early childhood education. A new system is being developed which will collect basic information about each child and their **participation**.

During 2013, each child in early childhood education will be given a **national student number**.

A national student number is already allocated to each child when they enrol in primary school. Allocating the number earlier will make it possible to follow the progress of each child from early childhood education right through to tertiary education.

What do I need to do?

Recording each child's **official name** is an essential part of allocating a national student number.

You will be asked to provide a copy of an **official identity verification document** (birth certificate or passport for example) to your child's early childhood service, if you have not done so already.

What happens next?

Your early childhood service will enter your child's official name into the Ministry of Education's early learning information system, and a unique student number will be created.

The new system will collect information about each learner and their attendance at early childhood education. This information will only be available to people with authorised access (eg. your early childhood service, the Ministry of Education).

Numbers and information collected will remain protected for privacy purposes, just like in the school and tertiary systems.

Having national student numbers will allow the Ministry to work with the information in a way that protects each child's privacy. This information will provide the Ministry with the basic data needed to assess trends, provide resourcing, and develop initiatives.

For more information, go to:
www.minedu.govt.nz/parents