

Privacy statement

Student Monitoring, Assessment and Reporting Tool (SMART)

What this document tells you

This privacy statement explains what personal information the Student Monitoring, Assessment and Reporting Tool (SMART) collects and why, how it is used by schools | kura and the Ministry of Education (the Ministry), and how it is protected. It is intended for students | ākonga, parents, caregivers and whānau who use SMART.

What personal information is collected

The Ministry collects personal information to support accurate and secure assessments. This includes:

- Student | ākonga identity information (full name, gender, National Student Number (NSN), year level, ethnicity, gender, school, language at home).
- Student | ākonga assessment information, question responses, marks, scores and teacher | kaiako feedback

This information helps SMART link assessment information to the correct student | ākonga and supports Ministry reporting without collecting unnecessary information.

Why we collect your personal information

The Ministry collects assessment information so that teachers | kaiako, school | kura leaders and boards can:

- Assess student | ākonga achievement and progress in reading, mathematics, writing, pānui, pāngarau, and tuhituhi, at an individual and group level across the New Zealand Curriculum (NZC) and Te Marautanga o Aotearoa (TMOA).
- Help students | ākonga, parents and whānau understand individual progress.
- Inform planning and decision-making about how best to support learning.

Student | ākonga assessment information from SMART provides the Ministry the ability to gain insights at the aggregate level across the education system to inform future decision-making.

How we use your personal information

The Ministry uses individual student | ākonga information to enable insights to be developed at the aggregate level across the education system to inform future decision-making. This may include matching individual student | ākonga data using the National Student Number (NSN) as permitted by the [Education \(National Student Numbers\) Notice \(No. 2\) 2024 - 2024](#) with other student | ākonga data the Ministry has, for example, to evaluate the impact of specific initiatives or interventions on achievement at an aggregated level.

Any Ministry reporting produced at an aggregate level across the education system will not identify or disclose individual student | ākonga information or be published in a way that an individual school | kura can be identified.

SMART uses artificial intelligence (AI) to assist teachers | kaiako in marking writing and tuhituhi questions. Only student | ākonga question responses are analysed, no other information about individual students | ākonga is processed by the marking assistant, reducing potential for influence or bias. Teachers | kaiako review all marks produced by the AI assistant and make a professional judgment to adjust and confirm the final mark.

Why we collect your information from Schools | Kura

The Ministry collects student | ākonga identity information from school Student Management Systems (SMS) to support accurate and secure assessments. It ensures that assessment data is consistently matched to the correct student and class at the school | kura, reducing the risk of duplication, misattribution, or errors.

How we collect your personal information

Student | ākonga information is sent electronically from school SMS to SMART by the school | kura administrators in preparation for assessments.

Assessment details (question responses, marks, scores,) are entered into SMART directly by students | ākonga online. Paper based assessments are scanned into SMART by teachers | kaiako or school | kura administrators.

How we keep your personal information safe

Your information is kept safe in a secure environment in New Zealand, with all the right protections for student | ākonga data. To make sure it's always recoverable, we also keep a secure backup in Australia.

Data, including personal information, extracted from SMART by the Ministry is only accessible to Ministry users who have a business reason or need to access it. Individual student | ākonga personal information is not disclosed externally or included in published reports.

Janison, the provider of SMART does not use or share SMART information for its own purposes.

School | kura staff can only access assessment information for students | ākonga within their own school | kura.

Students | ākonga can only access their own information.

Who we share your personal information with

Schools | kura may share student | ākonga personal information from SMART with the student's parents or caregivers, as required by the [Education \(School Boards\) Regulations 2020](#).

When a student transfers to another school | kura that uses SMART, overall scores and test-related data are made available to their next school | kura.

The Ministry may share SMART information with other agencies or third parties where it is required or authorised to do so by law.

How long we keep your personal information

Personal information held within SMART may be considered a care record and as such is subject to the Temporary Care Records Protection instruction which covers both existing and yet to be created care records, from alteration, destruction, discharge.

Further information on the temporary care records protection instruction can be found on <https://www.archives.govt.nz/manage-information/updates-for-information-managers/temporary-care-records-protection-instruction>

This privacy statement will be updated when the Care Records Protection instruction is removed.

Data extracted from SMART by the Ministry is retained until no longer required for research or analysis.

Your rights under the Privacy Act 2020

You have the right to request access to information we hold about you and to request correction of that information.

To request your information contact:

Education Service Desk on 0800 225 5428 or service.desk@education.govt.nz