

WPQ 39213 (2025) Table: Pilot programmes initiated since 27 November 2023

Programme Name	Start Date	Duration	Funding Source	Funding Amount	Objectives	Current Status
Community Liaison Trial	28 January 2024	Two years	The cost of the trial was factored into the cost of settlement of the Secondary Teachers' Collective Agreement.	The allowance is 0.04 FTTE in teacher release time and a \$1,000 teacher allowance paid annually. 186 teachers are receiving the allowance.	The purpose of this pilot programme is to support kaiako who are working to lift the achievement, wellbeing and retention of Māori ākonga and Pasifika students in secondary schools.	Ongoing.
Saili Malo Careers Pathways Programme for Pacific learners	11 December 2023	18 months	Pacific Education departmental operational budget.	A total of 4 Providers received \$20,000 each per financial year.	The purpose of this pilot programme was to support Pacific learners in navigating education to career pathways.	Completed.
Cultural Diversity Facilitator Project	Term 1, 2024	40 weeks (from each school's start date)	Refugee Coordinator Budget.	Schools received between \$18,230 - \$40,250 (GST incl) each.	The purpose of this pilot programme is to provide frontline support to schools in designing and executing activities, processes, and initiatives that proactively celebrate and integrate ethnic and cultural diversity.	Four schools completed the pilot programme by the end of Term 2, 2025. One school is part way through the pilot programme and will complete by end of Term 3, 2025.
Wellbeing Support Service pilot	June 2024	16 months	This was funded out of Budget 23 Crown Response Funding to improve redress for survivors of abuse in care.	Between 1 June 2024 and 30 June 2025, the total amount spent was \$213,060.25	The purpose of this pilot programme is to test a more holistic and integrated support model for sensitive claimants and expand on the counselling support that has been in place since 2010.	Ongoing.

					The pilot was in response to recommendations from the Royal Commission of Inquiry into Abuse in Care.	
Year 7-8 Maths and Pāngarau Targeted Acceleration Trial	February 2025	Six months	Literacy Numeracy Programme	\$3 million	The purpose of this trial was to evaluate the effectiveness and efficiency of three different models of small group mathematics and pāngarau acceleration programmes for students that were more than a year behind the expected curriculum level.	Completed.
Code Based Test Automation Framework Proof of Concept	September 2024	Six months	Digital Practice Management Improvement – Digital Investment Plan	\$250,000	The purpose of this pilot programme was to demonstrate the effectiveness of using an industry aligned, open-source framework over a licensed platform for Test Automation.	Completed.
Digital Process Identification and Improvement	August 2025	Eight months	Digital Practice Management Improvement – Digital Investment Plan	\$50,160	The purpose of this pilot programme is to identify current processes within Digital and create a central library that shows end to end process with associated cost and duration.	Ongoing.
Pilot Online Training for Ko Taku Reo	February 2024	Four Months	Treasury funded programme	\$11,953	The purpose of this pilot programme was as a training delivery service for the first tranche of Te Rito. It was focused on Ko Taku Reo (Deaf Association of NZ) implementation.	Completed.
Cybersecurity and Digital Support	January 2024	Three Months	Treasury funded programme	\$40,168	The purpose of this pilot programme was to refine the question set for the Cyber Assistant Tool to reduce the cognitive load for users.	Completed.

M365 CoPilot Pilot	June 2025	Five Months	Digital Solution Support Management	\$53,206.80	The purpose of this pilot programme is to deploy 303 M365 Copilot licenses to the Ministry of Education's digital team to enable a rigorous evaluation of its impact on productivity, collaboration, and service delivery. This controlled pilot will inform a scalable, cost-effective rollout strategy, reduce risk, and ensure alignment with operational goals and user needs.	Ongoing.
AI Proof of Concept for Digital Solution Modernisation	July 2025	Three Months	Digital Practice Management Improvement	\$48,500	The purpose of this pilot programme is to explore the use of AI in documenting existing solutions, the complexity, and functions within a solution. Convert legacy code to modern code. Create test cases and document key functionality.	Ongoing.
Automated Text Scoring Trial (May 2024)	March 2024	Four months	NZQA Baseline funding	Approximately \$27,000	The trial aimed to explore how Automated Text Scoring (ATS) could support marking for the Literacy Writing standard. Specifically, it focused on: Assessing the potential benefits of using automated marking within the NCEA framework and identifying where those benefits might apply	Completed.

					Evaluating whether machine-based marking can achieve the same level of accuracy and consistency as human markers.	
Automated Text Scoring Pilot (September 2024)	September 2024	Six months	Capability Investment Programme (excluding dedicated project and internal resource costs give the scope of work completed during this time was wider than just the pilot).	\$120,000	The purpose of this pilot was to provide insight into the results that can be achieved when ATS technology is used at scale to mark the co-requisite Writing assessment.	Completed.
Learning Environment Improvement Programme	November 2024	20 months	Baseline capital	Up to \$1.8 million (seed funding)	The purpose of this pilot is to develop and trial a standard, data-driven approach to upgrading existing school buildings through efficient and repeatable solutions that will bring property up to a minimum standard to provide warm, safe, and dry classrooms.	Ongoing.
Asset Data Collection	October 2024	Nine months	Re-prioritised property operating budgets	Up to \$800,000	The purpose of this pilot was to test an Asset Data Lifecycle Model to provide increased quality asset condition data that enables portfolio analysis and evidence-based investment planning.	Completed.
Building Standardisation Programme	January 2024	About three years	Sustainable Practices Delivery Framework Proof of Concept and Pilot Funding	Up to \$9 million	The purpose of this pilot is to create and embed consistent, scalable and repeatable property solutions as well as improve the way we procure and deliver. The programme will embed consistent solutions through standardised designs,	Ongoing.

					materials, documentation, delivery processes and improving ways of working.	
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