



League Tables Unreliable

AN EXAMPLE OF A MEDIA ADVISORY / RELEASE: Monday 23rd July 2012

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Schools believe league tables will be unreliable and unfair

Schools have been asked by Fairfax Media to provide their National Standards data to the Dominion Post. All schools believe the intention of such a request is to use this information to present league tables. Schools are reluctant to do so because the data collected by individual schools is not standardised and therefore cannot reliably be used to compare schools.

Data used to base league tables is not reliable. League tables negate the Government's stated purpose for National Standards to be used as a mechanism for improving schools and teachers. Principals and academics across the country have no confidence that National Standards are reliable enough to give parents a true indication of how students and schools are performing.

We urge parents to think twice before believing the accuracy of any published league tables of schools based on students' National Standards results.

Schools are not afraid of being accountable to our community. We already have a world-leading education system and National Standards and League Tables will do nothing to improve the quality. Instead it will label schools and communities as 'winners' or 'losers' in a way that is invalid and unfair. Parents would be better off talking with their child's teacher about the shift in or progress their child has made since starting school, visiting the school and reading ERO reports to judge how effective their local school is.