TIMSS 2010/11

School Questionnaire

CONFIDENTIALITY: ALL information collected in this study will be treated confidentially. At no time will you, other individuals, or your school be identified when reporting the results from this study.
Your school has agreed to participate in TIMSS 2010/11 (Trends in International Mathematics and Science Study), an educational research project sponsored by the International Association for the Evaluation of Educational Achievement (IEA). TIMSS measures trends in student achievement in mathematics and science, and studies differences in national education systems in more than 60 countries in order to help improve teaching and learning worldwide.

New Zealand has been involved in TIMSS since 1994 and last implemented this study for Year 5 students, their teachers, and their schools in 2006.

This questionnaire is addressed to school principals and department heads who are asked to supply information about their schools. Since your school has been selected as part of a nationwide sample, your responses are very important in helping to describe primary education in New Zealand.

It is important that you answer each question carefully so that the information provided reflects the situation in your school as accurately as possible. Some of the questions will require that you look up school records, so you may wish to arrange for the assistance of another staff member to help provide this information.

Since TIMSS is an international study and all countries are using the same questionnaire, you may find that some of the questions seem unusual or are not entirely relevant to you or schools in New Zealand. Nevertheless, it is important that you do your best to answer all of the questions so comparisons can be made across countries in the study.

It is estimated that you will need approximately 30 minutes to complete this questionnaire. We appreciate the time and effort that this takes and thank you for your cooperation and contribution.

When you have completed the questionnaire, please return it to your TIMSS School Coordinator. The School Coordinator is responsible for returning the TIMSS materials back to us in Wellington.

Thank you.

The New Zealand TIMSS team:
Robyn Caygill, Sarah Kirkham, and Jessica Herewini
1. What is the total enrolment of students in your school as of 1 October 2011?

_______________ students
Write in the number.

2. What is the total enrolment of Year 5 students in your school as of 1 October 2011?

_______________ students
Write in the number.

3. Approximately what percentage of students in your school have the following backgrounds?

Tick one circle for each line.

- 0 to 10%
- 11 to 25%
- 26 to 50%
- More than 50%

a) Come from economically disadvantaged homes
b) Come from economically affluent homes

4. Approximately what percentage of students in your school have English as their first language?

Tick one circle only.

- More than 90%
- 76 to 90%
- 51 to 75%
- 26 to 50%
- 25% or less

5. A. How many people live in the city, town, or area where your school is located?

Tick one circle only.

- More than 500,000 people
- 100,001 to 500,000 people
- 50,001 to 100,000 people
- 15,001 to 50,000 people
- 3,001 to 15,000 people
- 3,000 people or fewer

B. Which best describes the immediate area in which your school is located?

Tick one circle only.

- Urban—densely populated
- Suburban—on fringe or outskirts of urban area
- Medium size city or large town
- Small town or village
- Remote rural

C. Which best characterises the average income level of the school’s immediate area?

Tick one circle only.

- High
- Medium
- Low
6

For the Year 5 students in your school:

A. How many **days per year** is your school open for instruction (e.g., 390 half days = 195 instructional days)?

__________ days
Write in the number.

B. What is the **total instructional time**, excluding breaks, in a **typical day**?

_________ hours and __________ minutes
Write in the number of hours and minutes.

C. In one **calendar week**, how many days is the school open for instruction?

*Tick one circle only.*

- 6 days ---
- 5 1/2 days ---
- 5 days ---
- 4 1/2 days ---
- 4 days ---
- Other ---

7

What is the total number of computers that can be used for instructional purposes by Year 5 students?

_________ computers
Write in the number.

8

Does your school have a science laboratory that can be used by Year 5 students?

*Tick one circle only.*

- Yes ---
- No ---

(If No, go to question 10)

9

Does your school have a school library?

*Tick one circle only.*

- Yes ---
- No ---

(If No, go to question 10)

**If Yes,**

A. **Approximately how many books with different titles** does your school library have (exclude magazines and periodicals)?

*Tick one circle only.*

- 250 or fewer ---
- 251–500 ---
- 501–2,000 ---
- 2,001–5,000 ---
- 5,001–10,000 ---
- More than 10,000 ---

B. **Approximately how many titles** of magazines and other periodicals does your school library have?

*Tick one circle only.*

- 0 ---
- 1–5 ---
- 6–10 ---
- 11–30 ---
- 31 or more ---
How much is your school’s capacity to provide instruction affected by a shortage or inadequacy of the following?

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>A. General School Resources</th>
<th>B. Resources for Reading Instruction</th>
<th>C. Resources for Mathematics Instruction</th>
<th>D. Resources for Science Instruction</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>a) Instructional materials (e.g., textbooks)</td>
<td>a) Teachers with a specialisation in reading</td>
<td>a) Teachers with a specialisation in mathematics</td>
<td>a) Teachers with a specialisation in science</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>b) Supplies (e.g., papers, pencils)</td>
<td>b) Computer software for reading instruction</td>
<td>b) Computer software for mathematics instruction</td>
<td>b) Computer software for science instruction</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>c) School buildings and grounds</td>
<td>c) Library books relevant to mathematics instruction</td>
<td>c) Library materials relevant to science instruction</td>
<td>c) Library materials relevant to science instruction</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>d) Heating/cooling and lighting systems</td>
<td>d) Audio-visual resources for reading instruction</td>
<td>d) Audio-visual resources for mathematics instruction</td>
<td>d) Audio-visual resources for science instruction</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>e) Instructional space (e.g., classrooms)</td>
<td>e) Technologically competent staff</td>
<td>e) Calculators for mathematics instruction</td>
<td>e) Science equipment and materials</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>f) Technologically competent staff</td>
<td>f) Computers for instruction</td>
<td>f) Computers for instruction</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>g) Computers for instruction</td>
<td>g) Computers for instruction</td>
<td>g) Computers for instruction</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

Tick one circle for each line.
A. How often does your school do the following for parents concerning individual students?

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Activity</th>
<th>Never</th>
<th>Once a year</th>
<th>2–3 times a year</th>
<th>More than 3 times a year</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>a) Inform parents about their child's learning progress</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>b) Inform parents about the behaviour and well-being of their child at school</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>c) Discuss parents' concerns or wishes about their child's learning</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>d) Support individual parents in helping their child with schoolwork</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

B. How often does your school ask parents to do the following?

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Activity</th>
<th>Never</th>
<th>Once a year</th>
<th>2–3 times a year</th>
<th>More than 3 times a year</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>a) Volunteer for school projects, programmes, and trips</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>b) Serve on school committees</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>c) Raise funds for the school</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

C. How often does your school do the following for parents in general?

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Activity</th>
<th>Never</th>
<th>Once a year</th>
<th>2–3 times a year</th>
<th>More than 3 times a year</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>a) Inform parents about the overall academic achievement of the school (e.g., results of national tests, results of inspections of learning)</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>b) Inform parents about school accomplishments (e.g., tournament results, facility improvements)</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>c) Inform parents about the educational goals and pedagogic principles of the school</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>d) Inform parents about the rules of the school</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>e) Discuss parents' concerns or wishes about the school's organisation (e.g., rules and regulations, timetables, safety measures)</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>f) Provide parents with additional learning materials (e.g., books, computer software) for their child to use at home</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>g) Organise workshops or seminars for parents on learning or pedagogical issues</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>
### School Climate

**12. How would you characterise each of the following within your school?**

*Tick one circle for each line.*

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th></th>
<th>Very high</th>
<th>High</th>
<th>Medium</th>
<th>Low</th>
<th>Very low</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>a) Teachers’ job satisfaction</td>
<td>O</td>
<td>O</td>
<td>O</td>
<td>O</td>
<td>O</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>b) Teachers’ understanding of the school’s curricular goals</td>
<td>O</td>
<td>O</td>
<td>O</td>
<td>O</td>
<td>O</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>c) Teachers’ degree of success in implementing the school’s curriculum</td>
<td>O</td>
<td>O</td>
<td>O</td>
<td>O</td>
<td>O</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>d) Teachers’ expectations for student achievement</td>
<td>O</td>
<td>O</td>
<td>O</td>
<td>O</td>
<td>O</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>e) Parental support for student achievement</td>
<td>O</td>
<td>O</td>
<td>O</td>
<td>O</td>
<td>O</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>f) Parental involvement in school activities</td>
<td>O</td>
<td>O</td>
<td>O</td>
<td>O</td>
<td>O</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>g) Students’ regard for school property</td>
<td>O</td>
<td>O</td>
<td>O</td>
<td>O</td>
<td>O</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>h) Students’ desire to do well in school</td>
<td>O</td>
<td>O</td>
<td>O</td>
<td>O</td>
<td>O</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

**13. To what degree is each of the following a problem among Year 5 students in your school?**

*Tick one circle for each line.*

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th></th>
<th>Not a problem</th>
<th>Minor problem</th>
<th>Moderate problem</th>
<th>Serious problem</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>a) Arriving late at school</td>
<td>O</td>
<td>O</td>
<td>O</td>
<td>O</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>b) Absenteeism (i.e., unjustified absences)</td>
<td>O</td>
<td>O</td>
<td>O</td>
<td>O</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>c) Classroom disturbance</td>
<td>O</td>
<td>O</td>
<td>O</td>
<td>O</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>d) Cheating</td>
<td>O</td>
<td>O</td>
<td>O</td>
<td>O</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>e) Profanity</td>
<td>O</td>
<td>O</td>
<td>O</td>
<td>O</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>f) Vandalism</td>
<td>O</td>
<td>O</td>
<td>O</td>
<td>O</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>g) Theft</td>
<td>O</td>
<td>O</td>
<td>O</td>
<td>O</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>h) Intimidation or verbal abuse among students (including texting, emailing, etc.)</td>
<td>O</td>
<td>O</td>
<td>O</td>
<td>O</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>i) Physical fights among students</td>
<td>O</td>
<td>O</td>
<td>O</td>
<td>O</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>j) Intimidation or verbal abuse of teachers or staff (including texting, emailing, etc.)</td>
<td>O</td>
<td>O</td>
<td>O</td>
<td>O</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>
14. In your school, are any of the following used to evaluate the practice of Year 5 teachers?  
Tick one circle for each line.

a) Observations by the principal or senior staff
b) Observations by inspectors or other persons external to the school
c) Student achievement
d) Teacher peer review

Yes

No

15. During the past year, approximately how much time have you spent on the following school leadership activities in your role as a school principal?  
Tick one circle for each line.

a) Promoting the school’s educational vision or goals
b) Developing the school’s curricular and educational goals
c) Monitoring teachers’ implementation of the school’s educational goals in their teaching
d) Monitoring students’ learning progress to ensure that the school’s educational goals are reached
e) Keeping an orderly atmosphere in the school
f) Ensuring that there are clear rules for student behaviour
g) Addressing disruptive student behaviour
h) Creating a climate of trust among teachers
i) Initiating a discussion to help teachers who have problems in the classroom
j) Advising teachers who have questions or problems with their teaching
k) Visiting other schools or attending educational conferences for new ideas
l) Initiating educational projects or improvements
m) Participating in professional development activities specifically for school principals
About how many of the students in your school can do the following when they begin primary school?

Tick one circle for each line.

- Less than 25%
- 25–50%
- 51–75%
- More than 75%

a) Recognise most of the letters of the alphabet
b) Read some words
c) Read sentences
d) Write letters of the alphabet
e) Write some words
f) Count up to 100 or higher
g) Recognise all 10 written numbers from 1–10
h) Write all 10 numbers from 1–10

During the past year, approximately what percentage of your time have you spent on the following activities?

Write in the percentage for each.

a) Curriculum-related activities
b) Staff management
c) Property-related issues or activities (e.g., arranging for maintenance or repair of school buildings)
d) Other administrative tasks
e) Teaching
e) Other (e.g., Parent and community relations, interacting with individual students)

Total = 100%
A. Has your school participated in any of the Numeracy Projects?

*Tick one circle only.*

Yes ---

No ---

(If No, you have completed this questionnaire)

If Yes,

B. Which aspects of the Numeracy Projects has your school participated in and in which calendar year did you begin each aspect?

*Tick one circle for each line.*

a) Early Numeracy Project
(for Years 0-3) ------------------------------------

If Yes, which calendar year did you begin? ___________

b) Advanced Numeracy Project
(for Years 4-6) ----------------------------------

If Yes, which calendar year did you begin? ___________

c) Secondary Numeracy Project
(for Years 7-10) ----------------------------------

If Yes, which calendar year did you begin? ___________
Thank you for the thought, time, and effort you have put into completing this questionnaire.