



## Preface

Tēnā koutou katoa – greetings!

It is my great privilege, as New Zealand's Minister of Education, to write a foreword to this report.

As education leaders, we want our young people to succeed. The challenge we face is how to ensure our education systems give every child the quality learning experiences they need to develop and realise their individual potential, and to do so in ways that value who they are, their language, identity, and culture.

How do we harness diversity, create fairness, and ensure our learning environments engage and achieve the best outcomes for all individuals, not just a few? This report tackles those issues squarely.

Teachers, with their training and expertise, with all their experience and insight, with their care and commitment are critical to the learning journey of every child.

The OECD PISA 2012 study shows that high-quality teaching and leadership, effective student evaluation, the professional development of education leaders and the retention of great teachers, are all crucial to raising educational achievement. These attributes are even more important to raising achievement for the most disadvantaged students.

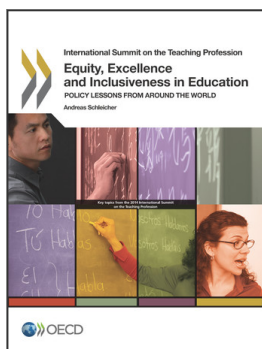
This report shows how some countries are raising the quality of teaching and the status of the profession through keeping, attracting, growing talented teachers and school leaders. It also shows how some are strengthening equity in their education systems in order to raise achievement levels. I wish to thank all those who have put it together, and commend its content to you all.

The report provided the background to the fourth **International Summit on the Teaching Profession** held in Wellington, New Zealand. The Summit's theme was *Excellence, equity and inclusiveness – high quality teaching for all*.

We are proud of much of our education system. But we know we also have much to learn. We look forward to sharing our experiences and insights with you, and to you sharing yours with us.

Heoi anō rā.

**Hon Hekia Parata**  
Minister of Education  
New Zealand



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