



20/01/2025

To whom it may concern

Request for Site Access to perform Building Warrant of Fitness Inspection

The Education and Training Act 2020 requires that schools obtain police vetting for every contractor and subcontractor, including their employees, who have or are likely to have, unsupervised access to students during regular school hours.

The Building Act 2004 requires that building owners do regular tests, inspections and maintenance to make sure that building safety systems are working. Argest manages the Ministry of Education's testing, inspections and maintenance obligations under the Building Act 2004. This is part of how we keep people safe at schools.

Argest is registered with New Zealand Police as an approved agency. This means Argest can, and does, obtain police vets for all their subcontractors who visit school grounds as part of completing the testing, inspections and maintenance. All Argest subcontractors who have been vetted are provided with a School Access Pass Identification Card. This includes the person's name and the company they represent.

Schools have other options if they do not wish to accept the School Access Pass Identification Card:

- a) Assign a school staff member to accompany the Argest subcontractor throughout their duties at the school.
- b) Manage the process to have the Argest subcontractor independently police vetted by the school. This may lead to delays in completing the inspection and could result in additional costs. There is no guarantee that the same subcontractor will be available for every visit.

Argest has created a "School Access Plan" (SAP) in collaboration with the Ministry of Education and the New Zealand School Trustees Association. The SAP outlines the types of work to be conducted and the measures in place to minimise interactions between Argest subcontractors and students while on site. A copy of the SAP is available for viewing on the Argest website here. www.argest.com

To discuss these options further, or to understand more about how the Argest police vetting system works, please contact Argest at teammoe@argest.com or 0800 274 378.

