
PRESS RELEASE

Ombudsman Meets with Minister for Education and Culture to Discuss Friendly Schools Programme

Apia, Government Building, Level 4 – August 27, 2026

The Ombudsman, Vui Clarence Nelson, paid a courtesy visit to the Minister for Education and Culture, Afioga Aiono Alec Ekeroma, to discuss opportunities for continued collaboration between the Office of the Ombudsman and the Ministry of Education and Culture.

The meeting provided an opportunity for the Ombudsman to discuss the Office's Friendly Schools Programme and other areas of mutual interest, particularly opportunities for the Office of the Ombudsman and the Ministry of Education and Culture to work together in promoting human rights awareness and education among students.

The Friendly Schools Programme is an important initiative of the Office aimed at introducing young people to their human rights in an engaging and accessible way. The programme also promotes awareness of issues affecting children and young people, including the importance of online safety, the right to education, health, and security.

The discussions also explored potential areas of collaboration between the Office and the Ministry on future programmes and activities that can further strengthen human rights education and awareness within Samoa's education sector.

The Ombudsman expressed his appreciation to the Minister for the opportunity to meet and discuss ways the two institutions can continue to work together for the benefit of Samoa's children and young people.

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