



Te Kopuru School
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08/09/2021

Kia ora koutou,

You'll be aware that all of New Zealand (with the exception of Auckland) is moving to Alert Level 2 from midnight tonight. Our thoughts and positive wishes are with everyone in Tāmaki Makaurau | Auckland.

Extensive wastewater testing and the numbers of people getting tested across the country has given the Government confidence that it is safe to allow a shift down to Alert Level 2 across most of New Zealand.

We are really looking forward to welcoming everyone back onsite tomorrow (Thursday) morning. At Alert Level 2 there is low risk of community transmission and it provides us with a lot more opportunities to engage and connect with others. However, there are still a number of public health requirements we all need to follow. Please do continue to monitor your health and do not send your children to school if they are not well (and please seek advice about getting a COVID test).

For us, all the required safety precautions for Alert Level 2 will be in place which include following all the recommendations from the public health experts. This means we will regularly clean and disinfect high-touch surfaces, encourage everyone to frequently wash their hands and cough and sneeze into their elbow.

While physical distancing is not a requirement in schools, we will be doing our best to keep students from congregating in very large numbers and keeping spaces well-ventilated.

Face coverings are not required to be worn in school. The Director General of Health has recommended that children 12 years+ wear a face covering at school – just as older children are required to wear face coverings in some other places. The decision to wear a face covering is up to you and your whānau, whatever your decision it will be respected.

If you are not sure what all the rules are for alert level 2 when you are out and about, then the following information may be useful to you:

- [COVID-19 Alert Levels summary table](#)
- [COVID-19 Alert Levels detailed table](#)

Please don't hesitate to contact your child's kaiako or me if there is something you need assistance with. See you Thursday!

Te Kopuru School Safety Plan Alert Level 2 at School

The key principles for Alert level 2 are to:

- Reduce the risk of someone getting infected in the first place
- Ensure we can identify and contact anyone who becomes infected
- Understand that level 2 is not business as usual

The safety and wellbeing of students, staff and their households continues to be a priority in Alert level 2. When opening school facilities, **the public health requirements must be adhered to** so that the threat of Covid-19 is minimised from spreading within the school community.

Students:

Student learning programmes will focus on student well being and their own responsibility of keeping our school a safe place. At the start of each day, and before lunch, and at other times throughout the day, students will be reminded of the following health practices:

- **Physical distancing:** maintaining a physical distance so that students are not breathing on each other. There is **no touching of others**. It is recommended **a metre distance**.
- **Good Hygiene Practices:** regular washing and drying of hands are to be encouraged. All staff and students will **hand sanitise at entry and exit points**. Hand sanitisers will be stationed at these points in the classrooms, and at central areas in the playground. Students are to **cover coughs and sneezes** with their elbow, or tissues, which must be thrown away immediately. Sanitise hands immediately.
- Avoid **touching, including the face**
- Students are not allowed on the school site if they are unwell. The school will **contact parents** if a child becomes sick and request that he/she be collected
- If student behaviours compromise the safety of others, parents are to be contacted immediately to collect their child
- Each room in the school will have spray disinfectant and cloth for cleaning of surfaces.
- Class movement around the school will be minimised.
- Classrooms will be well ventilated

Before/After School Procedures:

Schools are required to keep track of people who enter our school - through our attendance register, class timetable and visitor register. The covid tracing app is available at school.

With this in mind and to minimise contact, parents will be asked to **drop/collect their children at the school gate**. These gates will be closed at 9.00am, and opened at the end of the day for student pick up/buses collection. They will be locked at 3pm.

If parents need to see the class teacher, a phone call to the office or email is the first port of call. Students will hand sanitise immediately on entering and exiting the school.

Classrooms:

Classrooms will be set up with seating arrangements for students at **1 metre distancing**. This may vary between classrooms.

Hand sanitiser stations will be set up at entry and exit points.

Students are not to share equipment e.g. pencils, rubbers. All equipment should be **clearly named**. Each room will have spray disinfectant and cloth for cleaning of surfaces.

Toilets:

Only 2 students are to be in the toilets at any time. A card system of **vacant/engaged** will be set up on the door. Students are familiar with this process; and waiting on the 1 metre lines until the toilet becomes vacant. Strict hand washing routines to apply.
Hand sanitiser station will also be set up in the cloakroom.

Masks:

Are not mandatory for students but recommended by the Director General of health if parents think it's suitable for their child/children.

Cleaning:

The school cleaners will clean the school at the end of the school day. They will **focus on cleaning and disinfecting contact surfaces.**

Staff will wipe down contact surfaces as required throughout the day

Playground Expectations:

Lunchtimes/Break times

Students will eat their lunches in their own classrooms, at their designated desks/tables, monitored by staff. Students are to bring their own lunch in a **lunch box**, e.g. an ice cream container. All rubbish and food scraps will be taken home in their lunch box. This will avoid undue movement or contact around bins.

Students are to bring their own **water bottle**. Staff will refill as required. The **water fountains are closed.**

School Lunches:

Lunches in schools will be provided, starting tomorrow

There will be no Breakfast Club while at level 2

Fruit in Schools delivery will start next Monday 13 September

Playground Equipment:

The sandpits and adventure playgrounds are closed.

Buses:

Buses will run as normal. Students will be allocated seats that they are to stay in.

Homework Centre:

Homework Centre is only open for **bus students from Dargaville** while we are under Alert level 2

School Attendance:

As per normal, please contact the school to report your child's absence

If you have any questions about our health and safety plan, or have a child who might be vulnerable to serious illness and would like to discuss a plan for them, please contact me at school.

Ngā mihi

Lee Anderson

Principal