



# TE KOPURU SCHOOL NEWSLETTER

1 February 2022

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**Whakatauki: Manaaki te katoa Be kind to all**

**Ngā mihi mahana atu ki ngā Mātua katoa  
Warmest greetings to all Parents/Caregivers**

Welcome back after what we hope has been a wonderful summer for your whānau.

Our team is feeling refreshed and ready to go for the 2022 year and can't wait to welcome everyone back onsite.

School for our students begins this **Thursday 3 February**.

This newsletter is the first newsletter for the 2022 school year and it outlines our School Safety Plan at the COVID RED setting.

## **Te Kopuru School Safety Plan Red Level**

The key principles for Red Level

- Reduce the risk of someone getting infected
- Ensure we can identify and contact anyone who becomes infected
- Schools remain open

The safety and wellbeing of students, staff and their households continues to be a priority in Red level. 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.

### **Staff**

On 23 January the new Public Health Order requiring education sector workers to receive vaccine boosters came into force. Under the Booster Vaccination Order, a double vaccinated person has 183 days after his/her second jab to receive the booster dose. If it has been more than 183 days since the worker's second dose, but the worker has not yet received a booster shot, they have until 1 March to get this sorted.

The Board has an obligation to keep a record of

- Who has received a booster dose
- The date on which the booster dose was received
- If the affected person is over 18 years old and has not yet received a booster dose, the last date by which they must receive their booster dose

### **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 at least **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 are 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 again 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.

If parents do need to come into school, e.g. a new student starting school, please make sure you sign in at the gate/ or use the Q.R. code and are wearing a mask. Please make sure you go directly to the school admin so that the teacher can be contacted. We need to minimise parent/student contact.

### **Classrooms:**

Classrooms will be set up with seating arrangements for students at **1.5 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 mandatory for all staff and students Year 4 - 8 when indoors. Students need to be instructed on the proper wearing and use of masks. Masks need to be named and dated. No sharing. For students the masks must be the type that attaches to the head either through an ear loop or a head loop.

All school staff who are required to wear a mask will need to use a medical-grade mask under the new rules.

Bandanas, scarves and t-shirts will not be acceptable as mask-substitutes.

Both adults and students may have exemptions from mask use i.e. because of disability or medical condition.

### **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. Please be vigilant in regards to this, including wiping down keypads on photocopier, staffroom surfaces etc

### **Playground Expectations:**

#### **Lunchtimes/Break times**

Students will eat their lunches with their own classrooms, outside, monitored by staff

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

#### **School Lunches:**

Lunches in schools will be provided, starting Thursday 3 February.

Fruit in Schools delivery will start next Monday 13 September

### **Playground Equipment:**

The sandpits and adventure playgrounds are open. The caretaker will disinfect the areas each morning.

### **Buses:**

Buses will run as normal. Students will be allocated seats that they are to stay in. **Year 4 - 8 students are required to wear masks** and hand sanitise on entry into school.

### **Homework Centre:**

Homework Centre is only open for **bus students from Dargaville** under Red level

**School Attendance:** As per normal, please contact the school to report your child's absence.

We ask you to keep your child home if they are unwell

## **Events and Activities**

Large hui and gatherings especially when indoors continue to be one of the riskier activities we can undertake. We will therefore review all our events and activities for the upcoming term to ensure we meet the health guidance for Red.

## **Timetabling:**

If there is a confirmed case we need to provide the Ministry of Health the following information:

If the covid case was wearing a mask

Were they were at least 1.5 metres away from other students

How long the case spent with other children

How they arrived at school

Who they spend most of their time with during breaks

Whether they had contact with any non-teaching staff.

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.

## **Managing cases in our school**

Only if the Ministry of Health or the Ministry of Education advises to do so, would the school close and we move to distance learning for everyone if we get a confirmed case. At Red we are required to keep everyone learning onsite for as long as we can.

Please make sure your contact details we have on file are up to date, so we can get in touch with you if needed.

## **OTHER INFORMATION FOR PARENTS:**

**Please remember that students will need to bring a water bottle, hat, swimming togs, and a named mask.**

**School Stationery** packs are no longer sold at the school office. Please purchase stationery packs online directly from Baigents website <https://nzschooishop.co.nz> click on school list and type in Te Kopuru School  
They will get delivered to your childs school classroom for collection.

**School Uniforms:** Last year was a transition year for the implementation of our school uniform. School uniforms will be required to be worn this year. All uniforms can now be ordered directly online. There is some limited stock of uniforms left at the school office. All new orders for school uniforms need to be done directly online at

**<https://sportclub.co.nz/pages/find-your-school>**

**Change of Parent Contact Details:** Please let us know if you have **any change** of contact details. This is especially important for our Covid response.

## **Homework Centre**

Homework Centre, while we are at RED Level, will only be available for those students who travel on the Dargaville Town bus.

Thank you for your continued support for our school and I look forward to another successful year. Please take care and be kind.

Nga mihi nui

Lee Anderson

Principal

