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**8th September 2021**

## **Latest back to school update - Covid 19 Delta Level 2**

Kia ora e te whanau

You'll be aware that all of New Zealand (with the exception of Auckland) has moved to Alert Level 2 from midnight Tuesday 7th September. 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 on Thursday morning. Today we have been preparing the classrooms and school for the arrival of the children on Thursday. Please ensure your children bring their school devices back with them tomorrow.

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 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. However, we ask that you wear your mask when you are in the office area. 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.

To keep safe we also ask that you drop off and pick up children at the school gate.

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](#)

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Preparing our students for the possibilities of tomorrow*



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### **School Lunches**

The school lunches will continue to be provided to all students. On the menu for Thursday is wraps and Friday will be soup. Breakfast will also be available to those that require it. Children are to bring their own drink bottle of water, as drinking fountains will be closed for hygiene purposes.

### **Buses**

All buses will be running as usual.

Face coverings are not required on school transport – this includes charter buses hired by the school to transport students and staff. Face coverings are recommended for children aged 12+, as they are for attending school.

Anyone who chooses to wear a face covering in any setting should be supported to do so. Face coverings are not required on school buses because schools know who is on school transport and have good systems in place to identify potential close contacts.

Any student who is unwell should not travel on a school or public bus.

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

Stay safe, Take care

Rick Whalley  
Principal

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