

25 March 2022

Dear Parents, Whanau and Friends,

You will be aware that on Wednesday the government announced changes to our Covid response. For our school the changes will mean that visitors will no longer need to scan in using the QR codes from Tuesday 5 April. We will still be asking visitors to the school to sign in through the "VisTab" at the office so that we know who is on the school site in case of an emergency.

The Government has also announced that the mandate provision for education will be removed from Tuesday 5 April. This means that volunteers to the school, for instance those taking sports groups or helping on EOTC activities will no longer be required to be fully vaccinated.

These changes should make things a little easier around our school. However, there remains a requirement for all adults and children above Year 4 to wear masks on public transport, including school buses, and when inside buildings. It seems to me that there is beginning to be more students who are choosing not to wear a mask while at school. I know that some have exemptions, and this is just fine with us – we will continue to support them, but others are just choosing. While we will not become the "mask police" we do want to do all we can to keep all in our community, including staff, safe. I ask that you complete the very brief survey by clicking on this link so that as a school we have a clear data base to work from. I do apologise to those families who have already let us know this information but thank you for your support with this.

To keep you up to date with our school numbers, as of today we have had 57 positive Covid cases and 50 close contacts. We expect that these numbers will continue to rise over the next few weeks. Thank you to all who have helped us manage this information – it is important for us to pass on this anonymised data to the Ministry.

Please remember, if we can help at all, do not hesitate to call.

Kind regards

Phil Tappenden Principal