



25 February 2022

Kia ora Parents/Caregivers and Whānau

You will be aware that our country has moved to Phase 3 of the Covid response. This means some changes to how things will happen at school. The main points are:

1. School remains open for as long as we can safely staff our school;
2. Close contacts are confined to the family home;
3. All close contacts, anyone who has the virus, and any who have any symptoms must self isolate, contact the Covid help line or your doctor, and follow their advice;
4. Once you have completed self-isolation as directed by the Ministry of Health, you will be welcome to return to school.

It may be that we have some difficulty safely staffing our school. Our plan will be to combine classes as needed, and when that becomes impractical, the Board will ask those who can, to keep their children at home. We will endeavour to keep in-school learning happening for the children of essential workers. Should we be unable to do so, the school will need to move to on-line learning for all.

We will communicate all of these changes as needed and with as much notice as possible. We do thank you in advance for your understanding and support.

Science indicates that schools remain a reasonably safe place for students, and we hope that many students will continue to feel safe and welcomed at our school. I know that some parents will choose to keep their children at home. Please make sure you contact the school so we know your children are safe. We also ask that, should your child develop Covid you inform us, as we need to inform the Ministry of Health.

You will know as well as I that this is a challenging time for all of us. I am hoping that this current situation will bring an end to some of the changes we have had to make as a country and as a school. I look forward to the day I can say, "School is operating as normal". I am sure that day will come.

There are options available for families who may be finding these times a strain financially or need support. Could I suggest you consider looking into what help is available through the [Covid-19 Health Hub](#).

Please feel welcome to contact me at school should you have any queries. We will do our best to help.

Kind regards, ngā mihi nui and kia kaha

Phil Tappenden
Principal