

CENTENNIAL PARK SCHOOL

“Live Truly”



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11th March 2022

Update on what is happening from midnight tonight Friday 11th March

Kia ora e te whaanau,

It was only a matter of time before someone in our kura became a positive case. You may have heard there's been a number of confirmed COVID-19 cases which now includes our kura. This has included staff which affects the way we operate. Our Kaiako would have contacted you directly to advise the situation and to update you on their respective classrooms. The hard packs that were sent out would hopefully keep your tamariki engaged with learning until staff were able to return. Thank you for your understanding and not expecting them to work whilst they are unwell or away due to illness.

The health and wellbeing of our ākonga / tamariki, staff and community is a top priority, so we are closely following the Ministry of Health guidance for schools.

There is a change that takes effect at mid-night tonight. The time for isolating will be reduced from 10 days to 7. This is the latest announcement from the Ministry of Health and Gov't of lowering the time into the new isolation period. It is important to know what this means as it has an impact on the time away from kura.

This means that household contacts who are currently isolating fall under the 10 day rule **however**, as of midnight tonight (11th March) when the change occurs, it will become 7 days.

E.g. student A (Rawiri) was a household contact on Monday 7th March and currently needs to do 10 days isolation. On Friday 11th at midnight, student A (Rawiri) now only needs to do 7 days, so he will be free to return on Day 8 (with negative Day 7 RAT test). His return to kura would be Tuesday 15th.

This will be a welcomed reduced change and will help in how in the way we manage the blended learning programs currently going on. This means students and staff will be away from kura for a lot less time.

For whaanau wishing to continue to send tamariki to kura, you can still do this. If you wish to continue to keep your tamariki at home and are prepared to support them, we will continue to work with you to provide an engaged learning program.

How do I manage my health?

What you need to do

- You and your whānau should be very vigilant about monitoring for symptoms.
- If any symptoms develop, get tested immediately. (RAT test)

- Then, stay at home until you receive a negative result, AND until you or your child is symptom free for at least 48 hours.
- Wear a face mask when out and about.
- Wash hands often with soap for 20 seconds and dry your hands completely.
- Wash your hands if you have been in a public place or after blowing your nose, coughing or sneezing.
- Avoid touching your face, and cough or sneeze into your elbow or cover your mouth with tissues.

Symptoms of COVID-19

- A new or worsening cough.
- Sneezing and runny nose.
- A fever.
- Temporary loss of smell or altered sense of taste.
- Sore throat.
- Shortness of breath.

Less common symptoms include diarrhoea, headache, muscle aches, nausea, vomiting, malaise, chest pain, abdominal pain, joint pain, or confusion/irritability. For more information, go to [the Unite Against COVID-19 website](#).

What we're doing at Te Kura Rautau at this stage is:

- We are staying open. We are however providing learning material packs and in some cases devices for learning to continue at home. (Blended learning)
- We are using public health measures to reduce the risk in our settings, including masks, physical distancing and ventilation.
- We have appropriate cleaning procedures in place.

Our whaanau do not ask for much or often say that you are alright most of the time. You carry on as normal. Things are getting tougher and we're well aware of this.

We are currently working on a plan that can support our whaanau. Some of our whaanau are not using the services available like the Foodbanks. We maybe able to help with small packs of kai to top up. We will be working on this over the next week and will send out a paanui to advise what it could look like. There will be no cost and it will be for all our whaanau that have tamariki at our kura. We'll keep you updated and get back to you.

In the meantime, let us know if we can help you in any way. Please keep in direct contact with your child's Kaiako as the main source of regular communication.

Ngaa Manaakitanga

Kevin Ikin

Tumuaki / Principal

Centennial Park School

Te Kuiti