

CENTENNIAL PARK SCHOOL

“Live Truly”



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(Covid Level 3 Whaanau Letter #3)

Kia ora e te whaanau,

There is a lot of uncertainty with Covid Level shifts and how this applies to our communities throughout the country. This panui is to update you all on how our kura will be working together with you to address the return to learning of your tamariki as the current holiday's come to an end.

The Ministry of Health and Government made the early decision to shift our region to Alert Level 3 while health authorities quickly tracked down contacts, tested and isolated confirmed cases of COVID-19 in our nearby communities. Today, Minister Hipkins has confirmed we will remain at this level for the next few days until 11.59pm Monday 18 October. If there is to be a further extension, we will advise you as soon as that notification is released by the Gov't.

Te Kura Rautau will be open on Monday 18th October for those essential working families that have no option of keeping their tamariki at home under Level 3. We will be open on Monday for those whaanau only and the very small number of children who need to attend. All our usual safety precautions for Alert Level 3 will be in place which include following all the recommendations from the public health experts. For all others, we will be distributing devices to continue learning from home under Level 3.

At Alert Level 3 you legally must stay within your household bubble unless for essential personal movement, including going to work.

We will regularly clean and disinfect high-touch surfaces, encourage everyone to frequently wash their hands and cover their coughs and sneezes, and keep everyone physically distanced from others as much as possible (one metre inside and two metres outside). We will also keep school bubbles to no more than 10 students. These bubbles will not mix with other bubbles.

Our contact tracing systems will be in place, which includes our attendance register and visitor register, and we will be limiting staff onsite with the majority of our team working from home.

You can also assist everyone's safety by keeping your child at home if they are feeling unwell and please do contact your GP or Healthline, to seek advice about getting tested.

It is also now legally required that we hold a COVID-19 vaccination register for all eligible students and staff.

If we were to have a case of COVID-19 in our kura, public health authorities will want to know if we are a school with a high vaccination rate. This information will then be used as part of the local health authority's risk assessment. The more highly vaccinated we are (staff and eligible students), the less likely it will be that we will have to close down for a long period of time, or we might not need to close at all.

We will therefore need to know if your child has had their first or second vaccine dose or is exempted from being vaccinated. This information will be held by us in accordance with the Privacy Act and will only be shared with public health authorities.

We are therefore getting our data collection system in place and will get in touch with you again very soon.

We will continue to support all children who remain learning from home, through our distance learning programme and the devices will be organised as soon as possible.

While we know how difficult it is trying to work from home as well as support your child's learning, please keep your child at home if there is an appropriate carer available. For those of you with no other option, please let your child's Kaiako know before Monday 18th October. We will make special arrangements for your child to be learning at kura under Level 3 restrictions.

We really need our community to respond to this outbreak positively by making informed choices and taking the necessary precautions. Please continue to follow all the alert level requirements including staying at home, getting tested for COVID-19 if you are feeling unwell, and for your own sake and for the health of your whānau, please get vaccinated. I've included some [information about vaccinations](#) to support decision making.

Thank you for your support and working with our Kaiako and kaimahi / kaiawhina and staff. Please keep in contact regularly as the changes to covid levels will impact and determine when tamariki can fully return to kura.

Ngā manaakitanga

Kevin Ikin
Tumuaki
Te Kura Rautau / Centennial Park School