



WHANGAROA

TO WISDOM WITH HONOUR

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Wednesday 22 April, 2020

ALERT LEVEL 3 - COVID-19

Kia ora whanau

With the Prime Minister's announcement on Monday the 20th April of heading into Level 3 next week, we want to gauge the intentions of all whanau considering sending their children back to school. This is so we can make preparations to cater for both students who are returning to school and for those who will continue with distance learning.

The key message from the government is that whanau should keep their children at home, if you can. That you should only physically send your child to school if you need to. This is for all Year 7 to 10 students only. All seniors need to remain at home.

For those students intending to return to school there are a number of new procedures in place to support a safe learning environment. These include;

- Students will be put in a learning bubble, of no more than 10 students, in which they will need to remain in for the two weeks we are at Level 3. This includes members of their own whanau (bubble).
 - Students will only interact with these students both in class and during their break times. Each learning bubble will have a separate break-time.
 - Students will be kept 1m apart in the classroom and will need to remain 2m apart in the playground.
 - Students will be assigned a desk and chair in their bubble which they will remain in for the two weeks we are at Level 3.
 - Unfortunately, they will not be allowed to play interactive games where they are touching the same equipment, so games like handball will not be allowed. There will be no sports equipment available.
 - Students will be given their own learning pack which they will keep at school, with all the equipment they need for class. They will not share equipment.
 - Learning bubbles will have at least 2 teachers who will stay in the same bubble, so students may not have their normal teachers.
 - Students will continue to work through their distance learning material whilst at school.
 - Students will have regular hand washing throughout the day.
 - We will not expect students to wear school uniforms. There will be no uniform exchange and where possible students and staff will need to wear clean clothing daily.
 - As we do not require students to wear their school uniform, It is still important all clothing they wear to school is appropriate, just like a mufti day.
 - Students will not be able to hug their friends and huddle together during breaks..
 - Students will move directly to their bubble from the bus once it arrives at school. There will be no congregating before or after school.

- Every child is encouraged to bring a water bottle to school if possible. Communal drinking fountains will not be available during Level 3. The school will provide a water bottle where necessary.
- There will be no breakfast club, tuck shop or fruit in schools during these two weeks so please make sure your child has enough to eat during the day.

We would ask all whanau to discuss these with their child to ensure they understand these procedures before returning to school. In addition we would like to add;

- The school and staff are here to support our community, whanau and students through this challenging time.
- We are continuing to work with the Ministry of Education to get internet access, devices and learning packs out to our whanau.
- The Government, Ministry of Education and the Ministry of Health have set these guidelines for us to follow.
- Our teachers are also concerned about their own whanau and bubble, and we are trying to limit their contact as well as your childs.

For those students who will be remaining at home, we will continue with distance learning and once back at school, teachers will be able to produce more learning packs to send home to all whanau without internet access.

A school representative will be contacting you in the next two days to discuss whether your child/ren will be returning to school next week. If you will be keeping your child at home please email us back to let us know.

Important Dates

- Monday 27th April - ANZAC DAY observed (no distance learning today)
- Tuesday 28th April - Teacher Only Day (no distance learning today) - *certain teachers will be back at school, organising and preparing for learning at school.*
- Wednesday 29th April - Students can return to school (only if necessary and Y7 to Y10 only)
- Monday 11th May - Government review of Level 3 lockdown

Kind regards

Mr Jack Anderson
Principal