



**CENTRAL NORMAL SCHOOL
TE KURA TUATAHI O PAPAIOEA**

Whāia Kia Tutuki - strive to your potential

Friday 8 May 2020

COVID-19: Possible move to Alert Level 2

Tēnā Koutou Katoa

This update provides the finer detail of when we move to Alert Level 2. There is a lot of information contained in this pānui, but please make sure to read through all the information.

This has been based on advice and guidance from the Ministry of Health and the Ministry of Education.

WHEN WILL SCHOOL BE OPEN?

Our kura will reopen for **all** tamariki and staff on the Monday after **Alert Level 2** is announced.

A **possibility** could be:

- The Prime Minister announces on Monday 11 May that we move to Alert Level 2 at 11.59pm on Wednesday 13 May.
- School would open on Monday 18 May for **all** students and teachers.

Please Note: This is a possibility and is dependent on Monday 11th announcement.

WILL SCHOOL BE SAFE TO RETURN TO?

Advice from the Prime Minister and Ministry of Education is that, at Alert Level 2,

“Schools are open for all children and students to attend and it is safe to do so.”

Schools will continue to follow good hygiene and safety practices, such as:

- hand washing with soap for at least 20 seconds
- use of hand sanitiser on exit and entry to classrooms
- coughing/sneezing into own elbow
- encouraging students not to touch their face

CAN I KEEP MY CHILD AT HOME IF I'M UNSURE ABOUT LEVEL 2?

The advice we have is that at Level 2, school is safe for all children and staff to return.



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CAN I COME INTO SCHOOL TO DROP OFF AND PICK UP MY CHILD?

No, not at this stage. We have put the following measures in place to ensure we do not have a large number of extra people on the school grounds. We really appreciate your support and understanding with this.

At this early stage, we ask that children are dropped off outside the school gates **between 8:40am and 9.00am**. Children can come into school via the gates on Featherston Street, Aroha Street or Beresford Street. From the school gates, children can walk into school. A member of the Manawatū Team (Matua Regan, Whaea Elly, Mrs Howard, Miss Brett) will welcome the children at the gates.

At the end of the day, children will leave the school via the gate you have agreed to meet them at. Again, a member of the Manawatū Team will be on the gate, helping the children with this process. If your child needs extra support with this process, please touch base with the classroom teacher.

Please Note:

- Children will be released from class at 3.00pm, there will be no early finishing/pick up except for those children who are on After School Care vans.
- For our ORS children - Mrs Howard will make contact with you about pick up and drop off arrangements.
- If at any time through the day you need to collect your child (eg: for a doctor's appointment), you will need to come into the **office** (via Featherston Street gate) to sign your child out. We will ring your child's class and ask them to meet you at the office. We will also need to add you to our Contact Tracing Register.
- If your child is late to school, your child will need to enter school via the Featherston Street gate and sign in at the office as usual.

WILL PHYSICAL DISTANCING BE REQUIRED IN SCHOOLS?

Where possible, physical distancing is a good precaution. However, it is acknowledged that physical distancing is not always practical in schools.

For our kura, it means that children and staff maintain a physical distance so that they are not breathing on or touching each other - 'if you can smell someone's breath, you are too close.'



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ARE TEAM AND SCHOOL ASSEMBLIES ALLOWED?

They are allowed, but we have chosen not to hold team and school assemblies at Level 2. We wish to minimise large gatherings where close contact could occur.

CAN MY CHILD USE THE PLAYGROUND AND SPORTS EQUIPMENT?

Yes, your child will be allowed on the playgrounds and can use sports equipment. However, they will be required to sanitise their hands on entry back into class.

WHAT IF MY CHILD FEELS UNWELL AT HOME OR SCHOOL?

Just like before Lockdown, if your child feels unwell while at home, please do not send them to school. Similarly, if your child displays cold/flu-like symptoms at school, we will ring you to come and collect them.

WHAT CLEANING MEASURES ARE BEING TAKEN?

We will be following the cleaning advice of the Ministry of Health. That is, regular cleaning of frequent use areas, such as, door handles and push plates. Every day, all surfaces and toilets will be cleaned thoroughly with hospital grade disinfectant.

CAN MY CHILD USE THE DRINKING FOUNTAINS?

No, your child will not be able to use the drinking fountains. All children will need their own water bottle at school.

WHAT DO I DO WITH THE SCHOOL IPAD THAT WAS SENT TO ME?

Your child will need to bring the iPad and charger back to school and return it to their class teacher. These need to be returned on the first day back of school.

We really appreciate and thank you for your ongoing support and awahi as we all work through this together.

Ngā Mihi
Matua Regan
Tumuaki/Principal