



16th August 2020 Level 2 Letter to Parents

Kia ora koutou - Dear Parents and Whanau,

As of Friday last week, the Alert Level 2 status for areas outside of Auckland was extended until midnight 26th August. This letter will clarify expectations at the current level. As per previous messages, **under Alert Level 2 any students and staff who are unwell must stay at home.**

The symptoms of COVID-19 are similar to a cold or influenza. If you or your child has one or more of the following symptoms, please call Healthline on 0800 358 5453 or your doctor:

- a cough
- a high temperature (at least 38°C)
- shortness of breath
- a sore throat
- sneezing and runny nose
- temporary loss of smell.
- For more information please follow the [Ministry of Health](#) link.

To reduce contact tracing issues, under Alert Level 2 **parents are not to enter school wherever possible.** The exception to this will be parents of Year 0-2 students who may enter the gate near the Te Akonga block. **For reasons other than COVID19, parents of Year 0-2 students are asked to use the Office gate after 8:45am.** Names of parents will be recorded for contact tracing purposes. Where possible, **parents and carers are to email or phone the school office rather than enter the office in person.**

The Hall gate will be the second entrance/exit available for students. Both the Te Akonga gate and Hall gate will have hand sanitizer available. Normal school opening and staggered end of day collections times will apply. Years 3 to 8 students can be collected between 2:30pm and 2:45pm from the Hall gate. The staff car park adjacent to the Hall will be coned off as a space where parents for Year 3 - 8 students can wait and maintain physical distancing. **The lower gate, near the 'outdoor classroom' and playground slide, will be locked** during Alert Level 2 - please use one of the other gates. **QR codes are displayed at school entrances** for parental use. **Buses will continue to run as normal at Level 2.** The before and after school **SKIDS programme will also run as normal** with the addition of parental contact tracing measures.

Following Public Health advice for schools, no set distance between students will be maintained in classrooms at Alert Level 2, however where possible **students will be seated to avoid being physically too close and thereby avoid the 'moist breath' zone.** Students will be encouraged to cough or sneeze into their elbow, avoid touching their face and **will frequently**

wash and dry their hands and use **hand sanitizer** which is provided in all classrooms and toilets.

Students are not to share food at break times and **will need to bring their own water bottle** as the school fountain will be out of use. High touch surfaces in classrooms, toilets and around school will be cleaned and sanitized multiple times during the day.

Student Led Conferences, due for Tuesday and Wednesday this week will be temporarily postponed while an alternative plan is created. More to follow on this.

A **modified version of the school's Cross Country** competition will be devised and communicated to parents this week.

As a **precautionary measure** there will continue to be **no morning timatanga between classes or whole school assemblies** whilst at Level 2.

A dedicated team of parents will continue to run the **Kea Crossing**, students will return to run the crossing when we move to Alert Level 1 and the risk of community transmission is less than at present. Please contact any **community sports providers** to clarify their arrangements during this period, e.g. for football, netball, rugby and hockey clubs.

Technology for senior students, held at Mania View School, will be continuing. Students will need to take their own drinks bottles, lunch and aprons. Parua Bay students attending 'Tech' remain in a separate area of the school to all other students at all times.

Attendance at school is still expected for students during Alert Level 2; if you choose to keep your child at home during Level 2 please notify the office. **Face masks** are currently optional at this level for both staff and students.

As we have seen, **alert levels can quickly change** in response to new public health information. If the school does change to Alert Level 3 at short notice, staff do have contingency plans in place should we need to shift to home learning for the majority of students and in-school provision for children of essential workers. **Thank you to parents and whanau** who have responded to several google forms sent out last week which have enabled us to better prepare.

If you would like to read further guidance from the [Ministry of Education re: Alert Levels](#) - please follow the embedded link. Parents and whanau will be kept up-to-date with any further developments.

Nga manaakitanga,

Mark Ashcroft
Principal