

Wednesday 13 May 2020

Kia ora Parents and Caregivers

## **School Moving to Alert Level 2**

It was very welcome news this week that schools are able to fully open for all children from next Monday 18 May as the country moves into Alert level 2. We are looking forward to having all the children back at school and settling into a more normal routine. Of course, the health and safety of everyone at school is paramount so we will ensure school is safe to attend. The following guidelines and restrictions are required by the Ministry of Education at all times.

### **School Hygiene Protocols**

- We have a strict cleaning regime in place and all surfaces will be cleaned and disinfected by our cleaners on a daily basis.
- We will keep up our vigilant hand-washing regime at all times. In classrooms children will be expected to hand sanitise or wash their hands each time they leave and come into the classroom, before, and after using any school equipment.
- While the drinking fountains will be operational and cleaned regularly please can children bring their own drink bottles.

### **Social Distancing in School**

- Schools have different social distancing guidelines to public areas because they are controlled gatherings. At Alert Level 2, children and staff maintain a physical distance so they are not breathing on or touching each other. All classroom and outdoor education lessons will operate as normal.
- The children are able to play together during all break times. Outdoor games will be modified to ensure there is no touching.
- We will not be holding full school assemblies, Powhiri or any full school events at Level 2. Buddy classes will not operate to reduce classroom overcrowding however Kapa Haka and team assemblies will continue as we can socially distance in the school hall.

### **Before and After School Care**

Before and After School care will operate as normal from Monday 18 May. Hand sanitising and social distancing must be adhered to for adults when signing children in and out of both programmes.

### **Contact Tracing at School**

Due to contact tracing, we need to put in the following protocols for anyone coming into the school.

- All school gates will be fastened open before and after school to avoid unnecessary contact.
- For drop offs, please say goodbye to your children at the school gate.
- If you have to drop your child off at their classroom, you will need to sign in at the office.
- For picks ups, if you are unable to meet your child at the school gates and need to come onto the school grounds you will need to sign in at the school office.
- Please do not congregate on any of the deck areas outside classrooms and/or go into the classrooms.
- All parents must sign into the office when visiting the school to collect children during school hours, for any appointments or to talk to the office staff.
- If you need to meet with teachers please e-mail or phone to set up a prearranged meeting time or connect via Zoom.

**If your child is unwell or has an underlying health condition**

- Children must stay at home if they are sick, feeling slightly unwell and or have any symptoms of coronavirus including loss of smell, running nose, sore throat and or a cough.
- Children will be sent home if they become unwell at school.
- If your child has an underlying medical condition or allergies that present themselves as looking like a cold, please consult with the school to ensure we are aware of and/or have a safety plan in place.
- Please can you use [absent@paremata.school.nz](mailto:absent@paremata.school.nz) or leave a message on the answer phone if your child is going to be away.

**Attendance**

The staff are all looking forward to being back at school and teaching in their classrooms. Home based online learning will cease once school is open next Monday 18 May. School is safe and the expectation is that with the exception of students who are sick, all students will be attending at Alert Level 2. Parents and caregivers need to notify the school, if their child will not be attending school next week.

For more information from the Ministry of Education, please use this link.

<http://www.education.govt.nz/covid-19/alert-level-2-faqs-for-schools-and-early-learning-centres/>

Finally, thank you all for your ongoing cooperation and the support with your children's online learning while juggling work and family responsibilities. It has been a very intense time for us all and our school community has been amazing. See you all next week!

Ngā mihi nui



Bryce Coleman  
Principal