

Wednesday, 8 September 2021

School Moving to Alert Level 2 – Thursday, 9 September

Kia ora Parents and Caregivers

Thank you for all the support throughout the past few weeks, we hope you are all holding up well and looking forward to getting back to some sort of normality. We are really looking forward to seeing all the children back at school.

Tomorrow school is open for all students and online learning ceases. 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.

Face Masks

Face masks are optional at school for all staff and students. Parents can make the decision on whether their children wear masks at school and we will support you in managing this. **Any parent or family member coming onto the school grounds, at any time during Level 2, must wear a mask.**

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 and 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. Mask wearing, hand sanitizing 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 wear a mask and 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 wear a mask and sign in at the school office.
- Please do not congregate on any of the deck areas outside classrooms and/or go into the classrooms. Please wait on the court asphalt areas.
- All parents must wear a mask, 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, please consult with the school to ensure we have a safety plan in place.

Please can you use absent@paremata.school.nz or leave a message on the answer phone if your child is going to be away.

Attendance

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 won't be attending school this week. There will be no provision for online learning, as teachers are working fulltime in classes.

Thank you all for your support.

Ngā mihi nui



Bryce Coleman
Principal