

Ka Manaaki, Ka Rapu, Ka Whakamanawa tahi ai tātou
Caring, Exploring and Inspiring Together



14 February 2021

Kia ora te whanau

Like me, I am sure you have followed with interest the announcements made by the Prime Minister.

The Prime Minister advised the country that everywhere other than Auckland is going back into Alert Level 2. We know that this means schools are safe environments for children, young people and staff and that additional public health control measures are in place to prevent the spread of disease and to support contact tracing.

The good news is that we will be able to have all students and staff back to our school site when we are at level 2.

Here are the things to note:

For the kids:

1. Students can arrive from 8:30am as normal
2. They need to make sure they bring their lunch and drink bottle (water fountains will remain closed for the next few weeks)
3. Students must wash their hands or sanitise when they arrive at school each morning and go directly to their classroom. Noone is to be playing outside before the bell.
4. During the day they will also need to sanitise, hand wash, avoid touching their face and cough or sneeze into their elbow, and follow the rules around no touching of other people, especially their mates
5. No toys or equipment from home (pencil cases are fine)

Drop off:

1. We ask that unless your child needs extra support that you don't enter the school site or any of the school buildings. Staff will be located at entrances to support students as they enter the school grounds.
2. All students need to come through the entrances on Houghton Bay Road or through the gate at the carpark
3. All students must arrive between 8.30am and 9.00am. No students will be allowed onsite before 8.30am (teachers need to be able to set up for the day)
4. All parents/whanau who come onsite to drop off children must sign in for contact tracing. We have created QR codes to make this as quick and easy as possible.
5. There will be hand sanitiser for you to use as you enter a room (Our toilets are solely for students and staff)

During the school day:

1. If anyone enters the school they must still scan the QR code and then come directly to the school office. We ask you don't go to any classrooms.

Pick up:

1. Students will be released at 2:55pm as usual and teachers will assist children to get to the gates and to find the friends and siblings that they are heading home with, to avoid needing parents to enter school grounds.

Whole School events:

We will need to postpone any planned school events. This includes our beach trip on Tuesday, swimming on Thursday and maybe our school hui on Friday morning (we will confirm this later in the week).

We will keep you informed as we know more. Please stay safe and stay home if you are unwell. We appreciate your support in keeping our tamariki and staff safe.

Nga mihi nui

Luana Carroll, Principal at Houghton Valley School