



21 April 2020

Kia Ora one and all

We write to you in the aftermath of the Prime Minister's announcement yesterday. Being a Y1-13 school on 3 locations our situation could be different other schools.

1. School will continue as distance learning for all of this week. There is no change for this week.
2. This coming weekend is a long weekend for the country and a longer weekend for families with school age children. Monday is the ANZAC Day holiday (weird in these circumstances I know).
3. Tuesday when Alert Level 3 commences it is a staff only day so no lessons will be delivered via distance that day across all year groups.
4. For Y11-13 students distance learning continues under Alert Level 3 further notice. Botany Campus remains closed for all onsite learning.

#### **Regarding the opening of our campuses from Wednesday 29 April**

1. **The government and schools strongly encourage all Y1-10 students continue to engage in distance learning from their place of lockdown.**
2. The key message for you is that if you can, you should keep your child at home. You should only physically send your child to school if you need to.
3. If your child has a health condition that means they are at a greater risk of a severe illness you must keep them at home. If your child is sick please also ensure you keep them at home.
4. In order to ensure the safety of those children and our staff who do come to school, we will be operating with strict enforcement of health and safety measures.
5. We want to assure you that we will continue to support your child's learning at home.
6. The Ministry of Education has advised that they are working closely with the Ministry of Health to develop clear guidance that will support us to safely re-open our GC and MAC campuses to students and staff. This will help us work through the public health requirements that we all need to meet. As you will be doing, we want to be sure that what we do will keep our community as safe as possible.
7. For now, we will continue to support your child's learning by distance while we progress our planning for what Alert Level 3 will mean for you and for our school. Further information will be sent out on Friday.
8. Not all staff are able to return to school, in fact as at the time of writing 38 staff are unable to – this may restrict what we can do
9. Safety is the number one priority in whatever we do as a school, we do not wish any family's safety or any member of staff's safety to be compromised
10. **Parents of Year 1-10 students are requested to immediately complete a google survey ONLY IF YOU INTEND TO HAVE YOUR CHILDREN RETURN TO FACE TO FACE SCHOOL**  
**Wednesday April, 29:** <https://forms.gle/vF4pEMXhWNT2Wqy18>

Finally

This comes from BOT member Jiun Singh and I share it with her permission:

*"This is my prayer for our school and community. Our Heavenly Father, I pray that this transition from Level 4 to 3 will be the timely move of Your hand as a nation. As for our school, thank you that you see it will be good timing to launch our excellent team back to the front line! I ask in Jesus' name to grant our teaching and supporting staff with your Holy Spirit, renew their mind with your revelation of the meaning Covered by the Blood of your Son Jesus Christ! In this new revelation, their spirits will be renewed and infilled with new gifts! Especially the gifts of discernment and wisdom. Full of FAITH our BOT, school team, families and whanau will be united as one and have the mind of Christ, we walk, talk and work in your blessing, as we all carry out the confidant of our risen Christ. I ask for greater assurance and evidence of Your love to be displayed in our Elim Christian College community! So many have eyes will see, ears will hear and hearts will feel, this unspeakable peace and comfort is none but from You, our Heavenly Father and give You praise! Amen.*

*"So guard yourselves and God's people. Feed and shepherd God's flock—his church, purchased with his own blood—over which the Holy Spirit has appointed you as leaders. Acts 20:28*

*Nga mihi  
Regards*

*Murray*

**Murray Burton MNZM B.Ed Dip Tchg  
PRINCIPAL**