



20 February 2022

Kia Ora parents

We are advising you that over the weekend we have been notified of 3 new positive COVID cases at our school. Parents in those cohorts and campuses have been notified and all processes are in action as I write.

These latest cases are:

1. One Y5 student at MAC
2. One Y13 student at BC
3. One Y10 student GCMY (from same group already isolating since last Tuesday)

Although we had not wanted to clog your email boxes again over the weekend, these latest cases demand that we communicate with you.

The process we are following can be understood by reading the document '**Guidance to Parents regarding Isolation / Positive Test Results**' using the link below. **Please read this now:**

<https://www.elim.school.nz/wp-content/uploads/Guidance-to-parents-isolation-or-positive.pdf>

Therefore based on the careful management of staff regarding length of time in a lesson and the accompanying appropriate ventilation, all Y4-13 students who wear a mask whilst indoors at school will be deemed casual contacts if they are in the same class/area as a positive case, and can continue to attend school, not being required to isolate and test. (This is based on the already well known understanding that students are not required to wear a mask outdoors.)

Any Y4-13 student at any campus who doesn't wear a mask at school (therefore has a recorded exemption) will be deemed a close contact if they are in the same class/area as a positive case, and will be required to isolate and be tested if and when the positive case is notified.

All staff wear masks and will continue to be on site at school.

Campus Leads will immediately confirm a situation with any non mask wearers by phone.

Please note: with particular reference to Y1-3 students: because these students are not required to wear masks indoors at school, if we get a positive case in that age group, we will consider every child and every teacher in those areas to be close contacts therefore they will all be required to isolate and test.

If any family whose child is a casual contact (who doesn't have to isolate) but would prefer for them to also isolate and test, they may do so. They must email their Campus Lead so that they can be added to the list of students learning online, and also fill in the absence web form here: https://www.elim.school.nz/absence_form/

Learning online for any students at home will commence this week.

Summary of Positive Cases at Elim Christian College as at 6:00pm 20 February 2022

1. One Y9 student at MAC isolating since Feb 4 - MOE confirming no contact tracing necessary
2. One Y10 student at GCMY Tuesday 15 Feb - they and 64 students are isolating; staff isolated for one day and then the new isolation rule came in so they returned
3. One Y10 student at GCMY yesterday - (from cluster already isolating) MOE have been notified
4. One Y5 student at MAC - In process now
5. One Y13 student at BC - In process now

Much aroha.

Nga mihi nui
Murray Burton
PRINCIPAL