



Principal's Update Friday 28 August 2020

Kia Ora our school community

***Hold onto what is constant –
your faith in Christ, your family and your connection with great friends***

School resumes at Level 2 Monday August 31, check start times under your campus section.
We know that Level 2 continues (subject to reviews), until Sunday 6 September.

Alert Level 2

“We are being ‘safe and sensible’. We will be calm, we won’t rush, we will operate with a deep and honouring respect and we will look after the most vulnerable.”

We understand that there are different opinions on the severity of COVID and how best to keep each other safe. We encourage a healthy approach ensuring that all staff and students feel physically and emotionally safe. So we encourage safe distancing amongst adults and older students as that is where the increased risk sits. With the younger students we aim to help them have a healthy perspective and to share their feelings and be kind and respectful to those who may feel differently at this time.

The booklet aims to give some information that is helpful for understanding all viruses and it has a positive and hopeful perspective. Our teaching staff are geared up to share positive hopeful messages while acknowledging there are many different experiences that different families even in our own community have been through over this time.

Details of school at Level 2

Public health requirements will be adhered to

- PPE is not required or recommended as necessary in any educational facility by the Public Health Service.
- We are displaying a QR Code poster at each campus
- Schools are not classified as gatherings and a range of events and activities can go ahead
- Wise and reasonable social distancing – students and staff should be far enough away from each other so that they are not breathing on or touching each other. There does not need to be a specific measurement but where practicable and reasonable. One metre can be used as a guide between adults.
Physical distancing is recommended for parents and caregivers, from people they don't know (to align with public health measures outside the school grounds).
- Hand sanitiser at entry to classrooms and in shared spaces. Soap, water and the ability to dry hands will be provided in bathrooms. Washing and drying hands with soap is still the most effective hygiene measure.
- Drinking fountains will be closed

- All surfaces will be disinfected and cleaned daily
- Students bring their own drink bottles
- No parents, visitors, couriers on site
- All staff will use the QR code and also manually sign in for all entries and exits
- No face to face assemblies
- If staff or students are sick, they are to stay home (phone Healthline or their GP and get tested if a doctor or health professional recommends doing so)
- School buildings will not be used by outside groups during Level 2
- Students do not need to wear face coverings because the risk of infection within the school environment is low. Public Health officials have advised that children under the age of 6 should not wear face coverings.
- Teachers do not need to wear face coverings at Alert Level 2. Distancing is practicable and reasonable.

MAC Restart

Drop-off and pick-up routine / parking

In order to have a calm and safe return to school, we are asking you to “drop and go” with your children. Teachers will be onsite to supervise. Students who are brought to school in their parent’s vehicles will be dropped off and the students will walk into school on their own. We request that parents remain in your vehicles when dropping students off and picking them up. This is part of us limiting visitors to our campus. This is going to take place with a staggered start for different year levels.

Years 0 - 8 students will arrive between 8.15 - 8.30 am and Years 9 – 13, between 8.30 - 8.45 am. Students will go directly to their classrooms.

The same will happen in the afternoon with Years 0-8 being picked up between 2.45 - 3.00 pm, and Years 9-13 between 3.10 - 3.30 pm. Families with children in the two different groups will use the earlier start and finish times. This is the same procedure as the last time we were in Alert Level 2.

Any students who are not driven to school will be able to arrive from 8.15 am onwards.

Earlier this term, we had several students who were not collected until 3.45pm or later. Please ensure that you have a plan to collect your child/ren by 3.30pm.

Front Gate:

We are asking that you use McLean Street as a one way, coming down from Allendale Rd to New North Road. Drivers are requested to turn into the school gate, go around the traffic island and then exit the gate, turning left only. This will assist greatly in relieving traffic congestion. **Parents are to wait in their vehicles** and move on as soon as their children are dropped off or collected.

We recommend that you park your car in Allendale Rd and walk down to the school to fetch your children. Alternatively, your children could walk up to meet you. Children are discouraged from crossing McLean Street on their own during the peak time.

Back Pedestrian Gate (Allendale Rd):

This gate will be open from 8.10 am and will be locked at 8.40am. It will be opened at the end of the day and locked at 3.30pm. This is a preferred drop off and pick-up zone.

Thank you for your cooperation with this.

Sport

We are back into our sports trainings as of next week when we return to school. This will provide opportunity for students to be fully prepared for when competition starts as soon as the government lifts the gathering restrictions in Auckland.

Coaches and Managers are permitted to come on site provided they follow the health and safety guidelines.

Students moving between campuses for training and travel must sign in using the QR code provided and sanitise their hands before and after each training. This will be provided.

Parents must wait in their cars to pick up students after trainings.

If you are feeling unwell at all please do not attend.

Thanks very much. Looking forward to getting the ball rolling again!

Upcoming Giving and Aroha Service Opportunity – ‘Nappies for Glen Innes’

Each year we work with a truly amazing guy, Steve Farrelly to assist in even a small way with the phenomenal work he does in the more impoverished communities here in Auckland. So, when you visit the supermarket would you purchase a packet of disposable nappies for Steve’s work in Glen Innes? We will have a box in each campus on our return from lockdown and we would love to see these overflowing. Remember during Alert Level 2 your child will need to drop these at the school office.

Finally:

What God invites us to do... ***Rejoice always, pray continually, give thanks in all circumstances; for this is God’s will for you in Christ Jesus.*** (1 Thess 5:16-18)

Give thanks to the Lord, for he is good! His faithful love endures forever (1 Chron 16:34)

Do not be anxious about anything, but in every situation, by prayer and petition, with thanksgiving, present your requests to God. And the peace of God, which transcends all understanding, will guard your hearts and your minds in Christ Jesus. (Phil 4:6-7)

It was a big relief to hear we are moving back to Alert Level 2 on Monday. Thank you once more to our parents and caregivers for the support and resilience you have shown through Alert Level 3. We really look forward to seeing all our students back on site first thing Monday morning. Have a great weekend.

Lastly, a Tongan Proverb for you all.

‘Oua lau e kafo kae lau e lava’ – Stay positive and count your blessings

This proverb reminds us to be thankful for what we have and keep moving forward.

Much aroha

Nga mihi nui

**Murray Burton MNZM
PRINCIPAL**