



Wednesday 12 August 2020

Ruawai College is OPEN

The PM announced last evening that Auckland is moving to Alert Level 3 as of midday today (Wednesday 12 August 2020), and the rest of New Zealand will be moving to Alert Level 2 until midnight Friday 14 August 2020.

Kia ora koutou,

At Alert Level 2, schools have been deemed to be safe places for students and staff providing that all the necessary measures are taken as outlined by the Ministry of Education.

As I am sure you will have some questions here are some direct quotes from the Prime Minister and Ministry of Education bulletins which are guiding the practice that we are taking at this time.

Is it safe?

"Schools and early learning services are safe environments for children, young people and staff. Additional public health control measures are in place to prevent the spread of disease and to support contact tracing."

What about physical distancing?

"In schools, physical distancing means children, young people and staff maintaining enough distance so that they are not breathing on or touching each other. And maintaining good hygiene practices, and regular cleaning. As is regular cleaning of equipment."

What about the buses?

"Physical distancing isn't practicable on school buses, however, it's a controlled environment where contact tracing can take place if required."

I want to thank you for your support of the school and your child's learning at this time. If you do have any questions please contact your child's LA teacher or Dean, or their teacher if it is related to a specific subject.

Alert Level 2 - The School Day

- The school office will open. All visitors must sign the visitors register in reception on arrival and sign out when leaving. Visitors will observe the 1m distancing protocol and use hand sanitiser as they enter the reception foyer.
- You can use your NZ COVID tracer app to sign in at the QR code poster on the front door of the school office
- **ALL bus services** will be running, including the Dargaville bus run. Transport services will be taking extra measures to ensure student safety. Physical distancing may not be practical on school buses, however, it is a controlled environment where contact tracing can take place if required. Increased cleaning and sanitation practices will be made after each trip.
- Please ensure that you are here on time for the start of the school day, **8:45am**.
- At pick up time, **3:00pm**, please maintain a 1m distance and return directly back to your vehicle when collecting your child.
- Hand sanitiser and disinfectant is provided for classrooms and around the school. It is encouraged that staff and students maintain high hygiene practices during the school day.
- There will be increased signage around the school in regard to the following Alert Level 2 information.
- **Students are to bring their device to school.**
- Students cannot attend school if they or someone in their home has been in contact with a person who has tested positive for COVID-19 in the past 21 days.
- No student can attend school if they are unwell, especially if they show signs of headaches, runny nose, sore throat or a cough.
- You will be contacted if your child becomes unwell during the day and they must be collected from the school. Therefore you will be required to have an emergency contact.
- It is expected that everyone maintains high hygiene practices by washing their hands, being mindful of distancing, disinfecting workspaces where practical, sneezing into their elbow and not sharing food, water bottles and stationary.
- Sport equipment will be provided by the school for break times and will be cleaned after each use. Students are **not** to bring their own sport equipment to school
e.g. basketballs, handballs.
- There will be a high level of hygiene practices, as outlined by the Ministry of Health (personal and environmental) so that your child will be as safe as possible at school;
- Previously planned sports trips / events have been cancelled by Sport Northland for the remainder of this week. If you have any questions, phone or email the school:

Phone: 09 439 2216

Email: admin@ruawaicollege.school.nz

COVID-19 is still out there - play it safe!

- Physical distancing means young people and staff maintaining enough distance so that they are not breathing on or touching each other.
- **If you are sick, stay home. Do not come to school. Do not socialise.**
- If you have symptoms of a cold or flu, call your Doctor or Healthline and get advice about being tested.
- Wash your hands! Wash your hands! Wash your hands!
- Sneeze and cough into your elbow.
- Regularly disinfect surfaces.
- If you have been told to self-isolate you must do so immediately.
- Keep track of where you have been and who you have seen.

Checklist:

- **I have my device to bring to school**
- I have organised my school uniform (including PE gear)
- I have checked what time I need to be at the bus stop
- I have any textbooks and materials that need to be returned ready
- I have all my stationery
- I have food for the day
- I have a water bottle
- **I know that I have to stay at home if I am sick!**