



Sunday 22nd March 2020

Dear Parents and Caregivers:

**RE: COVID-19 response – Update 6**

Please note that all of our notices are available on our [school website](#).

## LATEST UPDATES:

### **Over 70s, Compromised Immunity Or Certain Medical Conditions**

Yesterday came the announcement that New Zealand has moved to Alert Level 2 – Reduce Contact for COVID-19, people over 70 years of age and those with compromised immunity and certain existing medical conditions are asked to remain at home as much as they can from now on and avoid any non-essential travel.

**We ask that any students who fit into the 'compromised immunity and certain existing medical conditions' category to now remain at home until further notice. Please advise the office of absences via the normal methods.** At this stage we are still able to staff each classroom with a teacher although we do have some support staff who will be working from home.

### **How You Can Help While We Function With Limited Staffing**

You can help us during this time by doing the following:

- Keeping your children home if they are unwell (see the 'when is sick,sick?') message below.
- Reporting any absences by 8.30am daily preferably by using the school app or ringing the school landline (8749700) and leaving an absence message.
- Ensure that if you have bus changes that these are received by 2pm daily.
- Communication: Our limited staff resources mean that as a school we are placed under more pressure, therefore dealing with operational matters in a timely way becomes increasingly challenging. All matters are important to us and we value your communication however, we would appreciate at this time that you defer matters that do not require immediate attention.

### **Lunch Orders and Juicies**

Lunch Orders and Juicie sales have been cancelled until further notice.

### **Our Priorities**

Our priority at present is to maintain good hygiene and a safe and healthy environment for staff and students. We are reinforcing this regularly. We know that practicing good hygiene is still the best thing we can all do to prevent illness.

**We ask that you continue to respect the physical distancing recommendations with staff and students.**

We are getting the most up to date advice and guidance so that we can confidently make informed decisions about the safety and wellbeing of our school community.

**FURTHER INFORMATION OVER THE PAGE**

## **EVENT CHANGES:**

### **Cancellations/Postponed**

The following events have been cancelled or postponed:

- Assemblies
- Touch Rugby
- Havelock North High School Open Evening
- Cricket
- Hockey
- Year 7/8 Camp

## **ONGOING ADVICE:**

### **When is sick, sick?**

The messaging remains clear – that if you are feeling unwell please stay home, this is for both parents/caregivers and students. However, at the tail end of a cold, there will be runny noses and probably some coughing. This might be worrying for some people who are being vigilant about their own and others' health. Please stay away until symptom free.

### **School Closure Information**

If you didn't get a chance to read the The Ministry of Education has developed a [decision making tool](#) about school closures.

### **The Key Messages**

A reminder that the key messages remain that prevention remains a priority:

***Awareness:*** Know what the symptoms are and where to get good information. The symptoms of COVID-19 are:

- a cough
- a high temperature (at least 38°C)
- shortness of breath.

***Vigilance:*** Stay away if you or your child are ill. If you have symptoms please telephone Healthline (for free) on [0800 358 5453](tel:08003585453) or your doctor immediately.

***Good Hygiene:*** hand washing and drying, good cough and sneeze etiquette will prevent spread of a range of ills as we move into cold and flu season.

For Further information please visit the Ministry of Health [Website](#) or <http://www.covid19.govt.nz/>  
This website has everything you need to know about Covid-19 in one place.

We continue to reinforce these messages at school. We will keep you informed as we are advised of any changes to the current situation or events we have planned. This will be done via the MKK App, email and our [school website](#).

Regards,  
Phil Jones  
Principal