



# *Pukekohe North School*

Princes Street, Pukekohe. Phone 0-9-238-8552

Kia ora koutou katoa te whaanau,

*Kia hora te marino*

*May peace be wide-spread*

*Kia whakapapa pounamu te moana*

*May the sea be like greenstone*

*Hei huarahi maa taatou i te rangi nei*

*A pathway for us all this day*

*Aroha atu, aroha mai*

*Give love, receive love*

*Taatou i a taatou katoa*

*Let us show respect for each other*

I hope this letter finds you and your whaanau safe and well.

We are delighted to be able to welcome more tamariki back onsite under Alert Level 3 next week.

We know learning kanohi ki te kanohi is the best option for children and young people. It's important for them to connect with their friends and teachers and it helps their social, physical and emotional wellbeing.

And so we look forward to starting to bring children back on site. If your child is already attending full time they will continue to. For other children returning we need to manage the numbers of students and staff attending school each day to keep everyone safe.

Even with the Delta variant, the risk of COVID-19 transmission in schools is low because of all the public health measures we will have in place. What this will look like:

- we will limit the number of tamariki and staff onsite each day
- we will keep those onsite in separate groups
- we will ensure our classrooms are well ventilated
- we will continue to practice physical distancing where possible
- we will follow basic hygiene practices such as regularly hand sanitising, coughing and sneezing into your elbow, don't touch your face
- as adults are the greatest risk for COVID-19 transmission we are asking whaanau to make an appointment through the office to come onsite.

In addition to this, all staff and children in Years 4 and above are required to wear face coverings indoors (unless they have an exemption). Year one to three students and their teachers are not required to wear masks.

We'll ensure all staff (and external contractors) who are on site are fully vaccinated or will have had at least one dose of the vaccine and return a negative weekly test.

What you can do to help:

- stay at home if you or your child is sick
- get tested if you have cold or flu like symptoms
- avoid catching up with other parents, children and whaanau at the gates

- wear a face covering and maintain a two-metre distance from people not in your household bubble
- get advice from your doctor if you or your child has complex medical needs (and please get in touch so that we can support your child to return onsite, wherever possible)
- avoid having playdates inside with children from other families at Alert Level 3.

The Ministry of Education has advised schools to decide individually what works best for their learners.

Pukekohe North School will be open for staggered groups of students to return to school Monday to Thursday next week.

On [Monday 22nd November](#) and [Wednesday 24th November](#) school will be open for the Senior and Kura Rumaki syndicates only (Rooms 1, 3, 8, 9, 10, 15 and 16).

The Kura Rumaki students (Rooms 8, 9, 10, 15, and 16) will enter the school through the gate by the ICT/Music suite on Princes Street.

The Senior students (Rooms 1 and 3) will enter using the gate on Beatty Road by the prefab.

On [Tuesday 23rd November](#) and [Thursday 25th November](#) the school will be open for the Junior and Middle syndicates only (Rooms 4, 5, 6, 11, 12, 14 and 18).

The Junior students (Rooms 11, 12 and 14) will enter the school through the gate by the ICT/Music suite on Princes Street.

The Middle students (Rooms 4, 5, 6 and 18) will enter using the gate on Beatty Road by the prefab.

Only essential workers' children will be able to attend school on Friday 26th November. This group will continue to enter and exit through the office entry. On Friday the staff will be meeting via Google Meet to review and plan for the following week.

Please send your child/ children with morning tea, lunch and a named drink bottle.

### Entry to School

- A staff member will be there to welcome students. The gate will be opened at 8.30am and closed at 8.50am.
- Students must use the dots marked on the pathway while waiting to enter the school.
- Parents should wear face coverings when dropping off and picking up students from school and remain distanced from the school as much as possible.
- Students will be greeted and triaged. We will hand sanitise the children, and the Year 4 to Year 8 students will be given a mask to wear. We ask that parents wait for their children to be cleared before leaving but do not congregate at this entry point.
- An attendance list will be kept and the students must then go straight to their classroom where they will be welcomed by their teacher.

### Exit from School

- Students will use the sanitiser and then be released by their teachers to the exit gate near their class at 2.40pm. Whaanau groups will meet by the library and leave the school together.
- All gates will be closed at 3.00pm

We would encourage you to talk to your child about what our plans are and why this is happening.

Please note, we'll continue to support learning from home for those tamariki who will not be attending onsite.

We respect the rights of every whaanau who decide to keep their children home for the rest of 2021.

The following link will take you to the Ministry of Education COVID-19 information for whaanau [covid-19](#)

If you have questions or concerns, you can contact me via the school office (0800 263 785 or 238 8552) or email [ntwiss@pukekohenorth.school.nz](mailto:ntwiss@pukekohenorth.school.nz)

We look forward to seeing you back at school next week.

Kia noho haumarū,

Nicky Twiss (COVID -19 Response)

