



# Pukekohe North School

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

**Tuesday 21 April 2020:**

## **COVID Level 3- Students Returning to Pukekohe North School.**

Kia ora koutou

Yesterday the Government decided that we will move into Alert Level 3 on 28 April. That means we will be open to receive students from the 29 April. We will start to prepare our site from tomorrow and are holding a Teacher Only Day on Tuesday 28 April.

The key message for you is **that if you can, you should** keep your child at home. You should only physically send your child to school if **you need to**. If your child has a **health condition** that means they are at a greater risk of a severe illness you must keep them at home. If your child is **sick** please also ensure you **keep them at home**.

In order to ensure the safety of those children and our staff who do come to school, we will be operating with **strict enforcement of health and safety measures**.

I want to assure you that we will continue to **support** your child's learning at home. Please email me at [principal@pukekohenorth.school.nz](mailto:principal@pukekohenorth.school.nz) or text our School Cell Phone **021 0517 620** if we can help in anyway.

Staff will **contact you later this week** to find out whether you can keep your child learning from home, or need your child to attend in person.

The Ministry of Education has advised that they are working closely with health services to develop clear guidance that will support schools to safely re-open their premises to students and staff. This will help us work through the **public health requirements** that we all need to meet. As you will be doing, we want to be sure that what we do will keep our community as **safe as possible**.

Some of our staff for personal health or family circumstances, have decided they are best to support learning from their own homes rather than be at school.

Our Board of Trustees are highly supportive of this stance.

For now, we will continue to support your child's learning by distance while we progress our planning for what Alert Level 3 will mean for you and for our school. We will be in touch again on Friday 24 April with more information. As you have been doing, please keep connecting with **your teachers** with any questions you might have.

As a quick heads up, here are some of the conditions that we are adopting to keep our students, staff and community safe as we return to school at Level 3 Lock Down:

1. **Students are to bring the following in their school bags: jumpers, raincoats, named water bottle, food, pencil cases and device (if you have been given one from the MOE /School)**
2. **Lunches MUST be brought from home. We will not accept any lunch orders from the local dairy**
3. **Entry into school will be via the side gate by the hall.**
4. **Please accompany your child to school on Wednesday 29 April so we can ensure our contacts details with all whanau are correct**
5. **Visitors are banned from the site unless on official business**
6. **The gates will be opened daily from 8.30.a.m.**
7. **Students will go into the hall following the taped off areas and following the taped social distancing rules. ( as for Supermarkets)**

8. Hand sanitizing will commence the day, follow all visits to the toilets, before eating AND on re-entering the classroom
9. Students will be taught in multi-levelled Whanau Bubbles of 10 students or less
10. Students are to sit 1 metre apart in classrooms
11. Students will access the same online learning programmes provided for those learning from home
12. Bubbles are NOT allowed to mix with one another
13. Each Bubble will have an organised play time outside (weather permitting)
14. Students are not allowed to use the Adventure Playgrounds nor are they allowed to have access to PE Equipment.
15. Equipment (tennis balls, skipping ropes etc ) cannot be brought from home to be played with.
16. Students must follow 2 metre distancing in the playground.
17. Surfaces, door handles and toilets will be disinfected after each teaching block by staff
18. Should a child become ill or need medical attention, they will be isolated in the sickbay and whanau called immediately (Families MUST have organised someone who can collect sick children)
19. At the end of the school day, the whanau bubbles will be sent home at spaced intervals from the same entry gate.
20. Students MUST go home immediately. They are to keep their 2 metre distancing from one another and not visit local playgrounds or one another's home.

Again, I will send my next update out on Friday 24 April.

Stay Safe and Be Kind.

A handwritten signature in blue ink, appearing to be 'Matua Jim', written in a cursive style.

Matua Jim