
Update 11 May

1 message

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To: All Personnel <allpersonnel@waimairi.school.nz>, allwhanau@waimairi.school.nz

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Kia ora Waimairi whānau,

Woo Hoo! We are open from Monday 18 May. Welcome back everyone.

Although our life in 'bubbles' comes to an end at Level 2, we still have plenty of public health measures to put in place to be able to safely open our school to you.

Today we started our detailed planning and will be sharing what Waimairi at Level 2 looks like with you on Wednesday afternoon. We will do a Facebook Live video at 1pm and follow that up with emailed notes.

In the meantime, here is a link to a video made by one of my fellow principals to share with younger children to get them ready for the Level 2 rules at school. Set distancing is not going to be a part of Level 2 at school. Instead we have contact tracing, hygiene measures, and the 'Moist Breath Zone' Enjoy the song...

<https://youtu.be/yZvtoVrykb8>

Below are the Prime Minister's remarks about the education sector from her speech today.

"Early learning services, schools and tertiary education facilities can open at Level 2.

I do want to emphasise that, with so few cases in New Zealand, 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.

Schools and early learning services will engage with parents about children returning at Level 2.

Distance learning is available for those unable to attend school, for example those who are self-isolating, because of potential contact with Covid.

Tertiary education facilities too will maintain the core capability to deliver comprehensive distance learning to students if needed.

If an education facility has a confirmed or probable case of COVID-19, they must close on an individual or group basis for 72 hours, to allow contact tracing, and then potentially for a further 14 days if required.

We also agreed that when we make the decision to move levels, schools won't be opened midweek – whenever the decision is made – they will open at the beginning of the following week.

The same public health messages continue to apply to schools; keep children at home if they're even slightly sick, and good hygiene such as hand washing are very important.

Where possible physical distancing is a good precaution. We do, however, know it is near impossible in an early learning environment and challenging in schools. So staying home if sick, good hygiene practices and regular cleaning become even more important here.

And all schools and early learning services will collect information about who's there, so public health can contact people quickly if they needed.

We know parents will have lots of questions, but please give schools and early learning centres time to plan and contact you.

And again a reminder we're not moving yet, this is just the framework"

<https://www.beehive.govt.nz/speech/alert-level-2-restrictions-announced>

Nāhaku noa, nā

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