



Kia ora koutou

Preparing for Alert Level 3

Yesterday the Government announced that Alert Level 4 has been extended until Monday 27 April. Schools will now open under Alert Level 3 from Wednesday 29 April. The remainder of this week allows us time to prepare the school for Alert Level 3 following Ministry of Education guidelines.

It is important to note is that under Alert Level 3 Koraunui School will **not** return to normal schooling.

What does this mean for parents?

- School will be open for children whose families are unable to supervise them at home (we expect this to be mainly essential workers, or those who are no longer able to work from home themselves). At this stage only children who **need** to be at school should come to school.
- You need to decide if your child is going to attend school physically, because they need to, or continue with learning from home. Government advice is that "Parents and caregivers keep their children at home and maintain distance learning where that is possible."
- It is not possible for you to choose to send your children to school on a day by day basis. Children cannot just arrive or be dropped off at school without first having a discussion and making arrangements with the school. This is to ensure that staffing requirements around student care are met, while balancing the health and safety of our own staff and their whānau.

What does this mean for students?

- Children who remain home will continue learning from home programmes.
- Children who come to school will complete the same learning from home tasks and activities as their peers who are learning from home. They will be supported through these learning programmes by teachers and some of our teacher aides.

What will classes look like?

- Classroom teachers will need to continue learning from home programmes for those at home. It is likely we will not have a full staff on board at school as we need to consider the health and well-being of staff during Alert Level 3.
- Children at school are likely to be in a multi-level class (a range of ages and year levels). Children will likely remain in their family bubble while at school. It is possible children will have a different teacher and teacher aides supporting them. It is possible children will be in a different classroom to normal.
- Classes will be in bubbles of 10 and interactions between classes will be limited, with separate outdoor play areas designated for each extended bubble, staggered break times, separate drop off/pick-up areas to allow us to protect the size of your extended bubble. In our case extended bubbles will be children working in the same classroom block (i.e. Kauri Block, Kowhai Block, Kamahi Block).

Government Guidelines for Alert Level 3

- All children who are able to, should remain at home and continue to learn remotely.
- Schools will be open for children up to and including Year 10.
- Children should be kept in their own bubbles where possible to limit exposure between children.
- Children and staff who are at greater risk are asked to stay at home.
- Any child or staff member who is sick must remain at home.
- Physical distancing - 2 metres outside and 1 metre inside.
- A need to regularly disinfect surfaces.
- Wash and dry hands, cough into elbow, don't touch your face.

As a part of the Alert Level 3 response we have been advised that KCC is **not** able to operate. Further decisions and advice will be provided as we move towards Alert Level 2 in the future.

Our teachers and staff are dealing with the same challenges you are, whether it be their own health status, having at risk family members or caring for dependents at home. For us to plan for on-site staff numbers at Alert Level 3, we need to know how many children will require supervision on site, and how many will continue learning at home.

Over the next few days teachers will contact you and ask you to confirm whether your child will be attending school physically or remain at home continuing distant learning. If we cannot make contact with you, we expect that you will keep your child/children at home.

For those who have to come to school, we will provide you with information about what this will look like once we have an idea of who this involves.

Thank you for doing your part to reduce the spread of COVID-19. Over the next 3 weeks, we all need to continue to do all we can to ensure we are keeping ourselves and those around us safe. We thank you for your support as we take the first steps towards life after lockdown.

Ngā mihi nui

Dave Lamont
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Koraunui School