

Monday 18th May, 2020

Kia ora e te whānau,

## Back to School for everyone on Monday 18th May

It was so lovely seeing all our beautiful tamariki returning to school this morning. Their bright smiles and happy korero warmed my heart.

Thank you to all our whānau who supported our entry to school procedures this morning. You made the transition back to school smooth and successful for all our people. We greatly appreciate your thoughtfulness.



### **The overriding principles for Alert Level 2 are:**

- to minimise the risk that someone gets infected in the first place
- to ensure we can identify and contact trace anyone who has been in close contact with a person, if someone in a school or early learning centre is infected
- understand that Level 2 is not business as usual

**It is safe for all students and staff to return to school in Alert level 2.**

### **Leaving School in the afternoon**

We expect that all our students go directly home after school. Can parents please support us with this. We DO NOT want students going off to the dairy.

If you are going to be collecting your child/children please be at the front of school on Deanwell Avenue at the following times

**[2.50 - 3.00pm OHU Kōkako and TŪT and their SIBLINGS go home](#)**

**[3.00 - 3.10pm OHU Kererū, Kārearea and PŪPŪ Manu go home](#)**

## **What would happen if we had a confirmed OR probable case of COVID-19 at Deanwell School?**

1. If there was a confirmed or probable case linked with Deanwell School, we will be advised of that by the Medical Officer of Health or your local public health authority.
2. If we become aware of a case associated with our school and haven't received notification from health authorities, we will contact our local public health unit and Ministry of Education contact for information and support.
3. Our Hamilton Ministry of Education staff will work with us and local health authorities quickly and **support will be provided to assist us to communicate with and support our whānau and employees.** We will communicate with you via our facebook and Deanwell website. Please also know that we have the phone number and email of all our whānau.

**If you change your contact details it is paramount that you inform us as soon as possible.**

4. If the person or persons who are a confirmed or probable case have worked in or attended our school when they could have been infectious (which could start up to 2 days prior to having symptoms) our school will close for at least **72 hours**. This will allow time for **contact tracing** and a clean of the school to align with Ministry of Health guidelines.

Close contacts at your school would be anyone who had:

- i. face-to-face contact in any setting within two metres of a case for 15 minutes or more
  - ii. having been in a closed environment (eg, a classroom, an office) within 2 metres of a case for 15 minutes or more
5. As we are undertaking good physical distancing measures and other hygiene measures, this may limit the numbers of people considered close contacts by health authorities.
  6. Close contacts will be required to self-isolate and will need to monitor for symptoms.
  7. In addition to closure for 72 hours for contact tracing health authorities could require closure for longer periods of time, up to 14 further days. This is likely to be because health authorities consider there could be risk of community transmission or there could be a large number of cases within a school or early learning service that mean a high proportion of students, whānau and staff could be considered close contacts and therefore need to self-isolate.

### **Support is available for all of us**

A reminder that Healthline continues to be available to support anyone who might be experiencing symptoms or who has been asked to self-isolate - call for free on [0800 358 5453](tel:08003585453).

Thank you all for being so patient and thoughtful as we work through our new health and wellbeing procedure of entering and exciting school. Staying well together is our priority.

Kia manawanui, kia manaaki, kia haumaru!

Pam