



Moerewa School

Kura Kōrero

26 October 2021

Kia ora koutou e te whānau

It was great welcoming everyone back to school last Wednesday. We are sure that you are keeping up to date with New Zealand's covid situation and alert levels. This newsletter confirms what our expectations are at Moerewa School in relation to our current Level 2 status.

At Alert Level 2 there is low risk of community transmission and it provides us with a lot more opportunities to engage and connect with others. However, there are still a number of public health requirements we all need to follow. Please do continue to monitor your health and do not send your children to school if they are not well (and please seek advice about getting a COVID test).

For us, all the required safety precautions for Alert Level 2 will be in place, which include following all the recommendations from the public health experts. This means we will regularly clean and disinfect high-touch surfaces, encourage everyone to frequently wash their hands and cough and sneeze into their elbow.

IMPORTANT

- Do not send your children to school if they are unwell
- Remember all whanau visiting the school need to wear a facemask
- Do not visit if you are unwell. Phone 0800MOEREWA instead

While physical distancing is not a requirement in schools, we will be doing our best to keep students from congregating in very large numbers and keeping spaces well-ventilated.

Face coverings are not required to be worn by staff and pupils in school. The Director General of Health has recommended that children 12 years+ wear a face covering at school. The decision to wear a face covering is up to you and your whānau, whatever your decision, it will be respected. *Please refer to the new Public Health Orders article on the next page that requires students aged 12 and over to wear a face covering on School Transport services under all Alert Levels.*

You will be aware of Government's decision that **all staff** and **workers who may have contact** with children and students in schools, must be fully vaccinated against COVID-19 by 1 January 2022.

The health and wellbeing of our students, staff, and community is something we take very seriously. By getting vaccinated, we're less likely to get sick from COVID-19, and we're also less likely to pass it on. A large number of our teachers and staff have already chosen to vaccinate to protect themselves and their learners and their whānau. We are working with the remainder of our team to ensure they have the information and support they need to get their first dose by the 15th of November, and to be fully vaccinated for the New Year.

A fully vaccinated education workforce provides reassurance for parents and whānau, that it's safe for their children attend school, and benefit from face-to-face learning with their teachers and engaging with their peers.

We appreciate all the efforts of parents and whānau to keep children and young people safe and engaged at school. We want to reassure you that we will continue to keep you informed as information comes to hand.

Feel free to reach out to any of our staff, if you have any questions.

Nga mihi
Maia Cooper
Principal
0212136176

Article – Public Health Order – School Transport

Kia ora

The new Public Health Orders require that students aged 12 and over, and drivers, must wear a face covering on School Transport services under all Alert Levels. This took effect from 11.59pm, 22 October, and applies to SESTA, Daily, Technology, Direct Resourced and Māori Medium school transport services. It also includes charter buses hired by schools to transport students and staff.

Students aged under 12 are not required to wear face coverings on school transport.

Please note:

- Providing face coverings is the responsibility of individuals and caregivers. Transport providers are not required to have face coverings available for student use.
- All drivers must wear a face covering on school transport services unless they have an exemption. Information on face covering exemptions can be found on the COVID-19 [website](#). To request an Exemption Card, please contact the Disabled Persons Assembly NZ on 04 801 9100 or info@dpa.org.nz.
- Drivers are not responsible for enforcing face covering. If a student refuses to wear a face covering, they should not be denied carriage. Please report any non-compliance to the school's bus controller.

If anyone has any queries regarding the above please do not hesitate to contact me.

Noho ora mai

Bernadette

Bernadette Scannell | Commercial Relationship Manager | School Transport