



PRINCIPAL : F. WHATA B.Ed, Dip Tchg

12 August 2020

Nga mihi ki a koutou nga koeke, matua, whanau, me nga tamariki toa o **Te Kura o Pukeroa Oruawhata - Rotorua Primary School** me te tangi hoki ki a ratou kua riro atu.

Following the announcements last night about new Covid-19 cases being confirmed with no known source of transmission, Alert Level 3 in Auckland and Alert Level 2 for the remainder of New Zealand is to be put in place from midday today.

You will already be familiar with alert level requirements and we confirm the following will apply for schools and early learning services:

#### **All of New Zealand excluding Auckland region**

Alert Level 2 applies from midday today.

- At Alert Level 2 it is safe for all students, children and staff to attend school and early learning. There will be appropriate precautions in place.
- Children and staff who are at higher-risk of severe illness are encouraged to take additional precautions when leaving home.
- Please be alert to illness and ask anyone who is presenting as unwell to go home, or ask parents and caregivers to come and pick the child up.
- Messaging about good hand hygiene and cough and sneeze etiquette to be reinforced.
- Soap and water is very appropriate for washing hands, particularly if hand sanitiser stocks are low.
- For schools, children, young people and staff should be far enough away from each other so that they are not breathing on or touching each other, coupled with good hygiene practices and regular cleaning of commonly touched surfaces. There does not need to be a specific measurement but where practicable and reasonable 1 metre can be used as a guide, particularly between adults.

- In early learning there does not need to be a measurable physical distance between children/ tamariki or children/tamariki and staff. However adults should where practicable use 1 metre as a guide between themselves and other adults.

Contact tracing remains a priority through our visitor register, timetable and attendance register.

The key Public Health approach is to minimise the risk that someone gets infected in the first place, and second to ensure we can identify and contact anyone who has been in close contact with a person, if someone in a school is infected.

The good news is that we are ready and know what to do in Alert Level 2. You can be assured that in Alert Level 2 we will know who is at school, who our staff and students have been in close contact with and take appropriate measures to keep everyone safe.

Under Alert Level 2, we advise any students and staff to stay at home if they are sick, and we will send anyone home immediately if they show any symptoms.

It's important however that not just at school but at home, safe hygiene habits are practised by everyone, as this is essential to minimise the risk that someone gets infected with Covid-19.

For more information about the public health measures at Alert Level 2, you can visit the covid19.govt.nz website: <https://covid19.govt.nz/>

If you have any questions about our health and safety plan, or have a child who might be vulnerable to serious illness and would like to discuss a plan for them, please contact me.

Nga mihi nui ki a koutou katoa

Mr Fred Whata  
**PRINCIPAL**