



COVID - 19 PARENT INFORMATION UPDATE 5

Kia ora koutou

With today's announcement by Government, we are implementing with urgency our plan to support your child's learning from home. We appreciate this is a sudden and significant change, and will be heavily disruptive to many people in our community.

For children of essential workers, if you have no suitable care option for them we will be available for your child here at school tomorrow morning. You may wish to check if you are considered an essential worker - <https://covid19.govt.nz/government-actions/covid-19-alert-system/> however those roles include doctors, nurses, ambulance drivers and police. We continue to ask that children who are not well, do not attend school.

*Plans are well underway to support your child's ongoing learning and teachers will continue to establish these plans. Over the next few days the **most important thing you can do is prioritise your child's wellbeing**. These changes will cause uncertainty and we ask you to simply spend time with your children reassuring them of the plans that are in place to keep NZers safe, read with them, play games, sing, dance and enjoy family time together. We expect all families will hear from their child's Key Contact Teacher on Friday to discuss the plans in place.*

SCHOOL HOLIDAYS HAVE BEEN MOVED FORWARD

These now start on Monday 30th until Tuesday 14th of April. The lockdown will continue after the holidays at which point our learning programmes will be ready for you to access online or in hardcopy packs where necessary. Much more details will be available for you in the coming weeks.

Junior students (Piwakawaka, Kea, Ruru Teina) who were at school today took home packs with some familiar school resources for families to use as they wish. If your child was not at school you are able to collect your child's learning pack from the staffroom tomorrow (Tuesday) between 9am-12noon.

Your child will be looking to you for guidance about this decision. Parents, caregivers, whānau and teachers will have a particularly important part to play in reassuring children at this time. If you haven't already done so, you may wish to read the information put together by the Ministry of Education to support your conversations with your children – [Talking to children about COVID-19](#)

As noted by the Prime Minister these restrictions are our best chance to slow the virus in New Zealand and to save lives. We all have a clear role here to slow the spread of COVID-19.

We will continue to communicate with you over the coming days.

*Ngā mihi
Janeane Reid*