



Kia ora koutou,

As you will be aware the New Zealand Government escalated its response to the COVID 19 pandemic over the weekend.

The main points to know are:

- **People returning from overseas must self isolate for 14 days**
- **No public gatherings of 500 or more**
- **Restrict/reduce smaller public gatherings**
- **Schools for now remain open**

We are being kept informed regularly by the Ministry of Education and are following their advice regarding pandemic planning. The key message from this is that prevention remains a priority:

Awareness: *Know what the symptoms are and where to get good information. The symptoms of COVID-19 are:*

- *a cough*
- *a high temperature (at least 38°C)*
- *shortness of breath*

Vigilance: *Stay away if you or your child are ill at all, even the slightest cold. Telephone Healthline (for free) on [0800 358 5453](tel:08003585453) or your doctor to discuss how to treat the illness and when it is safe to return to school*

Good Hygiene: *hand washing and drying, good cough and sneeze etiquette will prevent spread of a range of ills as we move into cold and flu season*

Keep social distance: *no hugging, handshaking, kissing or contact. Keep within 1.5 metres of people where possible*

For Further information please visit the Ministry of Health [Website](#)

At Clive School the staff and students have been, and will continue to revisit good hygiene practices, including social distancing. There are posters around the school displaying good hygiene and handwashing practices. The school has also stepped up the cleaning of high risk areas. As well as that, and at the direction of the Ministry of Education, the Board of Trustees have begun to plan how education may be delivered in the event of school closure.

The Clive School Board of Trustees have also implemented the following effective immediately:

- All school assemblies have been cancelled until further notice
- Coastal Cluster Swimming has been cancelled
- Good hygiene and social distancing are to be practiced by everyone
- Staff are to send children home if there are any signs of illness, no matter how small
- Staff are to reduce the number of times that children are together in groups larger than their class, or in close proximity to each other
- Staff are to stay home if they have any signs of illness

At this point the children are still able to play in the playground at morning tea and lunch. There is plenty of space outside and they will be reminded by the teachers to keep their 'social distance'. On wet days children will remain in classrooms in groups no larger than that of their class size.

Parent Teacher Interviews will still go ahead today and on Thursday 19 March, however we urge parents who are able to collect their children from school at 1pm today and again on Thursday, do so. That action helps reduce the numbers at school and the potential spread of any bugs. Staff have also been directed to set up the parent interview so that they remain 1.5metres away from the person(s) they are meeting. There is to be no hand shaking or social contact either. Please don't be offended by these actions.

At Clive School we have students and staff who are already immune compromised so any bugs are risky for them. We aim to keep all bugs away, not just COVID 19, that way we can maintain a healthy community and return to 'normal' as soon as possible.

The actions outlined in this letter will apply to AFCARE, all visitors to the school and parents and caregivers.

We will keep you informed as we are advised of any changes to the current situation or other events we have planned. This will be done via the Clive App.

The School Board of Trustees