

Kia ora koutou

You will have heard yesterday's announcement that Aotearoa New Zealand will now move to Level 2. A sincere salute to parents and whānau who have survived the many challenges of this time and also supported the school's efforts to keep up with the learning.

Schools are deemed to be safe environments for young people and staff. School will open for all levels and students therefore from Monday 18 May.

Buses will run as normal.

Teachers are required to continue with online learning for students who need to remain at home.

While students are expected to be at school, some families may wish for their child to be isolated at home. We ask that **all** families complete [this form](#), regardless of whether their child is returning to school or not. The form must be completed by 9am Wednesday. Thanks for your help.

The key principles of a safe environment are good hygiene practices, regular cleaning, appropriate physical distancing and the capacity for contact tracing. The school is drafting a rigorous health and safety plan to ensure optimum safety for both students and staff.

Wellbeing is a key issue and we are holding extended River Times for the first week back to enable River Guides to reconnect with students; share the lockdown experience, find out where students are at in their learning and reinforce safety and behavioural expectations.

As a school, we are enforcing a low tolerance policy for any student who is disregarding hygiene practices such as sanitising hands or who is not following the Hauraki Way. As teachers will be working hard to ensure that students are on track with their learning, we cannot tolerate disruptive behaviours and a withdrawal room will be established for students who are failing to co-operate. If necessary, students will be required to continue learning online at home if they cannot comply with our expectations.

The first week we will run a 'block week' where students are in longer blocks of time to enable teachers to ensure students are on track and to begin practical work where needed. Most of the practical 'hands-on' learning activities cannot be transferred to the online environment so those students self-isolating at home are encouraged to keep in touch with their teachers to discuss options for them.

Students need to bring their homework diaries, and their books and equipment for Monday period 1 and 2 classes on the first day.

For those students who have been issued with an HPC or Ministry of Education supplied device, we need these returned as soon as possible. They can be returned on Friday 15th May, Saturday 16th May or Sunday 17th May from 9am to midday at the college hall. This will enable time for staff to clean and recharge chromebooks ready for the next day. Please remember to return the charger. Students should be prepared to login to the device on arrival in the hall so that we can identify any potential issues.

We also encourage students to bring their own device (Chromebook, Windows or Apple laptop, tablet) from home to use on our WiFi network. Students will benefit from having access to their own device all day.

We have been advised that Hammer Hardware, which supplies uniform, will be open week days only and are open now. Ph 078677393 or Email ngatea@hammerhardware.co.nz.

Friday's bulletin will include details of how we intend to get sports up and running again but expect that code skills trainings will begin next week.

Junior Reports: Will be available online in the Parent Portal for parents / whānau to view from 3pm today. A letter will be emailed out with your child's username and password.

Ngaire Harris
PRINCIPAL