

Back to School

Kia ora koutou
Dear Parents and Whānau

We are looking forward to welcoming students back to school on **Thursday 9 September**. While we are still waiting for advice from the Ministry, the following gives an idea of what the re-opening of school looks like.

Back to School Survey

While we use Wednesday's 'Catch up' day to ensure that we can prepare for students' return, we are asking all parents/caregivers to fill out the [Back to School Survey](#). This will help with our planning for Thursday and also those who are impacted by the continuing Auckland lockdown.

Students in the Auckland region

The map for the Auckland region is available on the <https://covid19.govt.nz/> site. We are particularly aware of those students who reside in the Level 4 area and will be discussing ways in which we can give extra support to those students. We will be contacting NZQA regarding the Learning Recognition Credits available for those students who have been in lockdown for 20 days or more.

We are still awaiting advice on those families who live within the Level 2 area with a family member who crosses the Level 4 border for work. Please indicate on the [Back to School Survey](#) if you are in this situation.

Timetable

Once back at school, students will follow their normal block timetable. They therefore need to bring any equipment for the three classes they would normally have on a Thursday. This means that those students who are in the Level 4 region will now follow the normal block week school timetable, rather than the *Learning from Home* timetable.

School Devices

For those students who have been issued with an HPC Chromebook, we need students to return these when they return to school. Students need to bring these to the Student Centre on arrival.

Senior Students

We appreciate that this is a challenging time for senior students. Once students are back at school, we will be considering what strategies or interventions we need to put in place so that each student has the best chance possible to achieve their qualifications.

Buses

We are still awaiting firm information on bus runs; however, most bus runs will run as per their normal timetable. Bus runs that cross the border will be impacted.

Wearing of masks

In addition to hand sanitising, social distancing and regular cleaning of surfaces, we have been advised that the wearing of masks is strongly recommended as an added precaution.

Visitors to the Main Office

Please enter the bus bay to the main entrance and follow the information on the sign i.e. distancing and hand sanitiser. Most importantly, if you are sick please don't visit the school - rather phone or email. The same for students; they must stay home if unwell.

Winter Sports

At this stage, there have been a number of changes to winter sports. Winter Tournament Week for example, has been cancelled by the NZ Secondary Schools Sports Association. We will update students and parents on how the rest of the winter sports season will unfold.

Junior Arts and Technologies option changeovers

All Year 9 and 10 students will end their current options this Friday, 10 September and begin their new option course on Monday, 13 September. Teachers will invite students to the new Google Classroom sites later this week, so students are advised to check their email and accept the invite so that they receive all updates on course content.

Finally, a big **thank you** to everyone who supported the school's endeavours and kept in contact over this time and more importantly, did your best as a parent to keep students on track with their learning.

Ngairé Harris
PRINCIPAL

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Than
A School**



Hauraki Plains College