

IMPORTANT UPDATE

Kia ora koutou
Dear Parents / Whānau

This e-Bulletin gives important information regarding how we will move forward as a school community given that the government direction has moved from an elimination to a management strategy for COVID-19.

In coming to the following arrangements, the Board is very mindful both of minimising disruption and at the same time recognising that our Alert Level 3 students have missed out on 14 weeks of face to face teaching and learning and in the interests both of their learning and wellbeing, it is imperative that these students return to school.

The Ministry of Education has confirmed that **Alert Level 3 students** are able to return to onsite learning. This includes senior students who need to complete NCEA assessments, as well as Years 9 and 10 students. The arrangements are as follows:

- **Senior students** in Alert Level 3 needing to complete assessments, attend tutorials or sit NCEA exams are freely able to do so, from Wednesday 24 November.
- **Wednesday 24 Nov** is business as usual for Alert Level 2 Year 9 and 10 students.
- **Thursday 25 November** will be for **Alert Level 3 Auckland students Year 9-13 only**. This will enable teachers to meet face to face with students and get up to speed with where students are at in their learning. Students are asked to bring all the work that they have completed, especially the work completed in the Ministry provided workbooks.

All other Junior students will be asked to stay home that day (Thursday 25 Nov). If it is not possible or practical for a student to remain home, then those students will be accommodated at school.

- As we need to keep school numbers as low as possible, we will **alternate** Years 9 and 10 levels from Friday 26 November. This will enable greater social distancing and ensure all health and safety protocols are being followed.

Therefore the pattern of attendance will be as follows:

- Tuesday 23 November, Teachers Only Day.
- Wednesday 24 November, is business as usual for Alert Level 2 Year 9 and 10 students.
- Thursday 25 November, Auckland Level 3 students only.

- Friday 26 November, all Year 9 students (Alert Levels 2 and 3) to attend.
- Monday 29 November all Year 10 students (Alert Levels 2 and 3) to attend.
- Tuesday 30 November all Year 9 students .
- Wednesday 1 December all Year 10 students .
- Thursday 2 December all Year 9 students.
- Friday 3 December all Year 10 students.

It is envisaged that this pattern of attendance will be in place until the end of the year. Tuesday 14 December is the last day of Term 4. If you have any difficulties with keeping your child at home on alternate days, please contact your child's Dean. These students will be accommodated at school.

The following **precautions will be implemented on site:**

- All requirements at Alert Level 2 remain including social distancing, handwashing, staying at home if unwell and regular sanitising of desks and equipment.
- In addition, all staff and students are expected to wear masks while indoors. We appreciate that some students are unable to wear masks for a variety of reasons. Please email studentservices@aurakiplains.school.nz if you wish to have noted that your child cannot wear a mask. It is not necessary for masks to be worn while outdoors.
- As a further precaution, we may take temperature checks of students as they arrive at school. We urge parents to keep their young people at home if they are at all unwell.

All **buses will run as normal** from Wednesday 24 November. A reminder that masks are required on school buses.

A reminder also that tomorrow **Tuesday 23 November** is a Teacher Only Day given by the Ministry for teachers to consider the significant changes ahead in NCEA. Buses will not be running.

We are looking forward to welcoming back our students from the Auckland border area after such a long time away.

Kind regards,

Ngaira Harris
PRINCIPAL



Hauraki Plains College