

Precautions for Level 3

The Prime Minister announced that all of New Zealand will continue to stay in Alert Level 4 until 11:59pm on Tuesday 31 August. At that time, and subject to whatever information may emerge over this weekend, all New Zealand regions south of Auckland's regional boundary will shift into Alert Level 3.

Key Health Warnings

- Delta is more infectious and transfers very quickly, meaning the chain of transmission is a real concern. Therefore we all must keep minimising contact to limit the potential spread of this very contagious virus. The infection threat applies to students, and adults.
- Staying at home, and always wearing a face covering when out and about, are crucial precautionary measures.

Safety Preparations at Rotorua Intermediate: Monday 30 & Tuesday 31st August.

Management staff will require some time on site to prepare strict safety protocols. Since Delta is an airborne virus, which spreads very easily, staff involved will be following strict protection measures, such as wearing masks both in and out of class.

From Wednesday at Level 3

There is a clear message from the Ministry of Education that at Alert Level 3 schools will effectively continue to be closed for face-to-face learning and that students should continue to stay at home where possible. Teachers will not be on site as they are facilitating online teaching and learning with their students, therefore **only non-teaching staff will be onsite**. For safety reasons we prefer not to open and put students and staff at risk, however we are directed to accept the children of parents who are essential workers and have no alternative care options available, hence isolated supervision for these children will be provided.

Remember at Level 3 whanau bubbles can be expanded to support the supervision of children.

For those students who have no other option but to come to school, these will not be normal days of interacting with peers. There will be no Healthy Lunch programme operating so students will need to be provided with all the food and supplements they may require through the day, before they are dropped off at school.

Students must not arrive at school earlier than 8.30 am and are advised to wear mufti. Students will need to be picked up by 2.45 pm as walking home is not an option. There will be very strict health and safety measures for students and staff to follow in order to minimise risk. Temperature checks will be undertaken if there is any concern about a student's health.

We need to know prior to Wednesday which students are attending school and which days they will attend. Students need to be registered to attend school in advance through contact with their classroom teacher and cannot just arrive at school.

Putting others at risk.

Failure by students to adhere to safety measures and therefore put others at risk will require parents to find other alternatives than attending school during level 3.

Our final thoughts.

Delta is described as a 'ferocious' virus which behaves differently and therefore we all need to be cautious and alert, to ensure the safety of ourselves and our whanau. The alarming

findings about Delta's transmissibility, and its breakneck spread around the globe, means we need to be very watchful. Research is showing each case of Delta is spreading on average to six others.

We will keep staff, parents, and caregivers updated as we receive further directions. In the meantime stay at home, stay safe and keep the faith that we will get through this.

Kia Kaha [Garry de Thierry](#) and Staff.