



# Fairfield College

15 February 2021

Kia ora e te whaanau

As a result of a case of community transmission in South Auckland, Cabinet under the advice of the Ministry of Health made the decision to move Auckland to Alert Level 3 and the rest of New Zealand to Alert Level 2. This has been set for a three day period (Wednesday 11:59pm) and the decision will be reviewed every twenty four hours.

In reference to schools operating under Alert Level 2 and the holding of an activity that brings a large number of students together the Ministry of Education has distributed the following information:

***Think and plan carefully before you go ahead with any activity that brings a large number of students together and/or spectators are involved.***

*Some events may need to be cancelled or postponed when we are at Alert Level 2. Inter-regional travel is possible but only where you are confident the appropriate measures will be in place at the host venue, including requirements for gatherings.*

**With this in mind I have decided to postpone athletics that was scheduled for tomorrow, February 16. School will operate as normal on this day.**

Under Alert Level 2 and with the implementation of public health requirements I want to assure students, parents, and staff that Fairfield College is safe for staff and students to attend. It is the Board's hope that parents/guardians will have confidence in the recommendations of the Ministry of Health and support their children to attend school as normal.

In addition to the school's usual practices when managing health and safety, we will also be implementing specific [public health requirements](#) for Alert Level 2, such as:

- Parents are asked to keep any sick children at home. If a sick child comes to school we will contact parents to organise their safe return home. Sick students will be isolated until they can be collected. Principals at state and state-integrated schools have authority to preclude a student from attending if they believe on reasonable grounds that the student may have a communicable disease under section 19 of the Education Act – see [Guide to Legal Powers](#)
- Students and staff should be far enough away from each other so that they are not breathing on or touching each other, coupled with good hygiene practices and regular cleaning of commonly touched surfaces. ***There does not need to be a specific measurement but where practicable 1 metre should be used as a guide, particularly between adults.***
- Hand sanitiser will be provided at the entry of class rooms and in shared spaces. Soap, water and the ability to dry hands will be provided in bathrooms.



**Be respectful**  
**Be responsible**  
**Be the best you can be**

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- Where practicable we will encourage students to regularly wash and dry hands, cough and sneeze into their elbow, and try to avoid touching their face.
- Physical education classes and break time activities can include access to sports equipment including playgrounds but hygiene practice should be observed after playing with equipment.
- All hard surfaces will continue to be cleaned daily.
- Contact tracing registers will be set up to identify which students and adults are on site. All visitors that come on to the school site are encourage to use the Covid-19 Tracing App which is located in front reception.
- PPE is not required or recommended as necessary in any educational facility by the Public Health Service. **Please note that face masks must be worn on public transport.**

The school will also be implementing the following practices:

- Parents/Guardians are encouraged not to come on site unless they have made an appointment to meet with the person that they are planning to meet. For the time that we are at Alert Level 2 we are encouraging parents to initially contact staff through email or telephone to reduce the number of people on site. If you are on site please ensure that you sign the visitors register or use the Covid-19 Tracing App.
- Water fountains at school will not be operating and students are encouraged to bring water bottles to school. These water bottles can be refilled at two locations. Hand sanitation will be available at these locations.
- While we are at Alert Level 2 or above the school will not be participating in events that require our students to interact with students from other schools. This includes sports, cultural, and participation in the secondary tertiary programme at Wintec.

Thank you for the understanding in this matter. We have dealt with these challenges previously and we know that supporting each other and being cautious in our actions is the key to safely managing this situation.

Kia haumaru - Be safe  
Naaku noa, naa



Richard Crawford  
PRINCIPAL