



# Fairfield College

14 September 2022

Kia ora e te whaanau

You will be aware that New Zealand has adopted a new, long-term approach to COVID-19. These changes have been made based on public health advice and reflect high levels of immunity and declining case numbers across New Zealand.

This new approach will only result in minor changes to the way we operate.

The very positive news is that household contacts of a person with COVID-19 do not need to isolate, but instead are asked to complete a RAT test each day, for five days. Therefore, students who are household contacts but test negative and do not have COVID-19 symptoms, should continue to attend school. It is the best place for them to be so they can be engaged in their learning, and connected with their teachers, classmates, and friends.

Information on how to get RAT kits can be found here:

[Request a RAT | Ministry of Health NZ \(covid19.health.nz\)](https://www.health.govt.nz/our-services/health-services/rapid-antigen-tests)

The Ministry of Health has confirmed that masks are no longer required on public transport or school transport and in line with other mask changes, they are no longer strongly recommended in school settings. Fairfield College has decided that we will still require masks to be worn in large indoor settings such as assemblies, however, the wearing of masks will be optional in the classroom.

All the other recommended public health measures will stay in place as we know they reduce the spread of infectious illnesses including COVID-19. These include ensuring our indoor spaces are well-ventilated, maintaining good hand hygiene, encouraging everyone to cough or sneeze into elbows and, most importantly, staying home and getting tested if they have COVID-19 symptoms.

Thank you for your ongoing support in protecting our community. Please do not hesitate to contact the school if you have any queries.

Kia haumarū - Be safe

Naaku noa, naa

Richard Crawford  
PRINCIPAL



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

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