



1 February 2022

## **2. Information for Parents**

Kia ora tatou e te whānau

This is the second instalment of our Omicron, phase one protocols.

Staff and students must wear masks when inside at school from Year 4 to 13, when we are at Red. It is **recommended** that masks be a medical-grade. This is a part of the plan that relies heavily on whanau and students to work together and do their part to protect everybody's safety. In Nikau syndicate, our classes are composite Year 3 and 4, so we are encouraging our Year 3 students to wear masks but we cannot mandate it. However, parents may feel more secure if all students in the class are wearing masks.

We will have regular five minute breaks where children can go outside and remove their masks. Children do not have to wear masks when outside during morning break and lunch times.

### **Water Bottles**

We would like all students to have named water bottles so they can remain properly hydrated during the day. Our water fountains are closed for health and safety reasons. It is impossible to stop young children particularly, from putting their mouths and tongues all over the water vents and at this, or any, point in time that is not particularly healthy.

### **Events and activities**

Large hui and gatherings especially when indoors continue to be one of the riskier activities we can undertake. We therefore review all our events and activities for the upcoming term to ensure we meet the health guidance for Red. At this point in time we will not hold school or syndicate assemblies and will restrict the number non-essential visitors on site. Events held outdoors continue to minimise risk. Activities such as singing can be held outside, with distancing.

We will ensure that all class and syndicate areas are well ventilated.

### **Pōwhiri**

Local Iwi (Ngati Toa) have advised that pōwhiri / mihi whakatau involving parents should not go ahead under the Red traffic light setting. We will look to holding this event later this term or early next term depending on traffic light setting.

### **New Entrant and Year 1 children.**

Our New Entrant and Year 1 teachers will walk tamariki down to the vehicle gate for parents to collect from 2.50pm. This will help reduce congestion.

More tomorrow

Nga Mihi

John Wootton