

17 September 2021

Kia ora Green Bay School whānau

The quick move to Alert Level 4, high volumes of testing for COVID in the community, extensive wastewater testing, huge numbers of New Zealanders being vaccinated and an amazing response by Aucklanders to follow the rules at Alert level 4, has given Government confidence that we might move to Alert Level 3 on Wednesday next week. Until then, we remain at Alert Level 4.

When we do move to Alert Level 3, you legally must stay within your household bubble unless for essential personal movement, including going to work and going to school.

All going well, we will be open on Wednesday next week, for only the small number of students who need to attend. As you can imagine, it will not be school as we know it under Alert Level 3. All our usual safety precautions will be in place which include following all the recommendations from the public health experts. This means we will regularly clean and disinfect high-touch surfaces, encourage everyone to frequently wash their hands and cover their coughs and sneezes, and keep everyone physically distanced from others as much as possible (one metre inside and two metres outside). We will also keep school bubbles to no more than 10 students. These bubbles will not mix with other bubbles. Our contact tracing systems will be in place, which includes our attendance register and visitor register, and we will be limiting staff onsite with most of our team still working from home.

You can also assist everyone's safety by keeping your child at home if they are feeling unwell and please do contact your GP or Healthline, to seek further advice.

We will continue to support all students who remain learning from home, through our home-learning programme.

While we know how difficult it is trying to work from home as well as support your child's learning, please keep your child at home if there is an appropriate carer available. For those of you with no other option, we will look forward to seeing your child at school next week. If you haven't already done so and your intention is to send your child to school next week, please complete the ***Students Returning to GBS under Alert Level 3*** [survey](#).

Just to mention also that we have been advised by the Ministry of Social Development (MSD) that they have developed an online tool to help identify what types of financial assistance a person could be eligible for quickly and easily: [Check out what you might get | Ngā āwhina tērā pea ka whiwhi koe](#). Please note, this is a guide and shows how MSD can help a person or whānau. Once the application form is submitted, MSD will be able to work out the exact financial assistance they will receive. This service is only available to New Zealand citizens and residents.

We should be proud of how we have responded to this outbreak, but the mahi isn't yet done. As you have been doing, please continue to follow all the alert level requirements at Alert Level 4 and stay at home. It is the best tool we have to keep our whānau and community safe.

Ngā mihi



Anand Muthoo
Principal
Green Bay School