



PRINCIPAL'S LETTER RE: COVID-19 LEVEL 3 FOR GLENDENE SCHOOL

21 April 2020

Kia ora whānau,

We want to thank all of you who are essential workers and have kept the country going through this crisis. We also want to thank all the parents who have worked hard to get the children involved in the school learning provided, including any online lessons you have accessed. Thank you also, for your support of our teachers. Your positive feedback to them when they are working so hard, whilst still keeping themselves safe in their bubbles, has really meant a lot to us.

On Monday the Government decided that we will move into Alert Level 3 on 28th April for two weeks. **That means we will be open for students whose parents and whānau are essential workers or who are returning to work and have no adult to look after children at home. We will start to prepare our school site from today. If our school is ready we hope to open the school, for these students only, on Wednesday 29th April.**

The Ministry instructs schools to make an Alert Level 3 roll (list of children) as we form processes to make this work. To plan appropriately, **we are asking parents to let us know if their child will need to be coming to school for Alert Level 3 (and be put on our Alert Level 3 roll)** so that we can form our in-school bubbles and match it to staff available. **Please reply to this text or email if you will be sending your child to school.**

We will continue to support your child's learning at home. In fact, even if your child comes to school, he or she will be doing the same online programme as if they were at home. Selected staff will be physically at school to supervise, not teach, they will only be monitoring.

The key message is that if you can, you should keep your child at home. You should only send your child to school if you need to. If your child has a health condition that means they are at a greater risk of a severe illness, you must keep them at home. If someone in your bubble has a compromised health condition, keep them at home. If your child is sick please also ensure you keep them at home. We want to be sure that what we do will keep our community as safe as possible.

Here are other things to note.

1. You will need to drop off and pick up at the main school gate.
2. School opening and closing time will be staggered (either 8.30-2.30 or 9.00-3.00).
3. Children need to bring their own morning tea and lunch
5. Physical distancing will apply.
6. Children will be in a strict bubble of no more than 10, families will be kept together.
7. There will be no mixing within and between bubbles.
8. Children will stay at one table / seat.
9. Children will not share learning equipment.
10. Children will not use any sporting equipment.
11. The school library and reception area will be closed
12. Break times will be staggered and water fountains will be closed
14. Surfaces will be regularly disinfected
15. Safe hygiene practices will be maintained
16. Hand sanitiser will be used upon entering school grounds, the classroom and soap in bathrooms
17. Flu-like symptoms must be reported to the school
18. Detailed records will be kept in case of contact tracing.

I'm sorry if this sounds very bureaucratic, it is necessary at this time. Together we can help keep ourselves and others safe.

Ngā mihi nui,
Sepora Mauigoa
Principal