

Sunday 28th February 2021 - (Return to) ALERT LEVEL 2 INFORMATION



Nga matua ma nga kaitiaki, Dear Parents and Caregivers,

Like me, I am sure you have heard the announcement made last night, and received the emergency alert on your cell phone! "The Prime Minister last night announced that from 6am this morning Auckland would return to Alert Level 3 for a period of seven days, and the rest of New Zealand would go to Alert Level 2 for the same period."

The following are reminders about what is expected at Alert Level 2 (for the next seven days, or until further notice):

Daily drop-off and pick-up

- We urge you to drop off/pick up your child at either of the school gates, but understand that for some children, this is not possible. If you need to come on site, please adhere to the instructions in the next bullet point.
- Schools must keep track of everyone entering our school, even parents, via a Contact Tracing Register. This means that we are asking every parent/caregiver who comes onto site to sign in or scan the Covid Tracer App. Each classroom has one of the posters displayed, and we have a paper copy of the register at the Office. Please scan into your child's class and do not enter any other parts of the school (unless you need to visit the office). When we were last at Level 2 you all did a great job of minimising the need to be onsite. Ka pai!
- If you need to speak to myself, your child's teacher or the office, please email or call first to make an appointment. This way we can manage the numbers of additional visitors safely.

After School Care - a message from APlus:

With schools remaining open, all aPlus centres in Manawatu & Horowhenua are also open. We still have protocol in place to cover the change to alert level 2 and our team will remind all children of these. Running our centres in a safe and sensible way will be a team effort and we need your help with the following:

- Sick children: Please keep your sick child at home and get them tested if they show any symptoms of a cold, the flu or Covid-19. If a test is undertaken, please let us know the outcome of the test at manawatu@aplus.kiwi.nz.
- Food and drink: Your child will need a drink bottle and they cannot share food.
- Pickup/Dropoff: Parents are not permitted inside our centres at Alert Level 2. Sign In/Sign Out desks will be back at centre entrances with an aPlus staff member on hand at all times. Please remember to scan the QR code on display and sign your child in/out, then wait at the desk for our staff will bring your child to you.
- Hygiene: Sanitiser is available at sign in/sign out desks. Please use the sanitiser before sign in/out.
- Children attending aPlus will be reminded to wash hands regularly, sneeze/cough into elbows etc. Our team also have strict hygiene standards to adhere to, in line with Ministry guidelines for Alert Level 2.

Lunches

- Fish & Chip lunches will still operate fortnightly via the Tokomaru Store (the next F & C day is 12th March)
- Variety Lunches will NOT operate during Alert Level 2 (therefore there will be no VL this week)
- Children MUST bring a named water bottle each day (all drinking fountains will be closed until further notice)

Break Times

- Children will be supervised in their classrooms for eating (morning tea and lunch) to ensure appropriate distancing can be adhered to.
- The playgrounds will be open but children will be required to wash/sanitise their hands prior to returning to class.
- PE gear will be available to children at break times (for them to issue),but will be sanitised prior to next use.
- Bikes and scooters are welcome as usual (helmets must be worn); usual 'wheels' rules will apply.

Bus - this applies to bus students

- There are no changes to our bus route or service.
- School buses are a controlled environment where immediate contact tracing can take place if required. Seats in close proximity to the driver will be left empty.
- The Ministry is supplying hand sanitiser for students and drivers to use on every journey, and increased cleaning and sanitation practices will be made after each trip.
- We must ensure Uzabus have reliable, up-to-date bus lists at all times to ensure everyone knows who is being transported each day, to enable contact tracing, therefore it is VITAL that you let the office know if there are any changes to your transport arrangements.

Technology at Monrad - this applies to Room 5 (Year 7 & 8) students ONLY

- At this stage Technology will go ahead on Wednesday as usual. We will let you know of any changes as they come to hand.

PTP's - Parent Teacher Pupil Conferences

- These will go ahead as planned on Wednesday and Thursday this week, 3rd & 4th March. We have strict contact tracing methods and will have small numbers of people on site, so are able to manage these appointments safely. We do ask, however that you go only to the room(s) you have a booked appointment for, scan or sign in, and keep a one metre distance from people outside your 'bubble'. We will still be closing at 12:30pm on Wednesday. APlus will be running Out of School Care (based at school) to those parents who need it (either until 3pm or up to 6pm - see www.aplus.kiwi.nz for details)

Games & Gala Day 6th March Cancelled

- Unfortunately due to us being in Alert Level 2 until at least the 7th March, we are unable to go ahead with this event. We apologise for any inconvenience, but the safety of our community is of utmost importance here.

In Alert Level 2 schools are safe environments for children, young people and staff and that additional public health control measures are in place to prevent the spread of disease and to support contact tracing.

Under Alert Level 2, we advise any students and staff to stay at home if they are sick, and we will send anyone home immediately if they show any symptoms. Our school has safe and sensible practices to maintain the health and safety of everyone on the school site. We all just need to remember to have some breathing space at Alert Level 2! It's important however that not just at school but at home, safe hygiene habits are practised by everyone, as this is essential to minimise the risk that someone gets infected with Covid-19.

For more information about the public health measures at Alert Level 2, you can visit the covid19.govt.nz website: <https://covid19.govt.nz/>

If you have any questions about our health and safety plan, or have a child who might be vulnerable to serious illness and would like to discuss a plan for them, please contact me.

Smiles, Sonia Mudgway 😊

Principal