



24 March 2020

Dear Parent/Caregiver

Novel-Coronavirus (COVID-19) – Next 4 Weeks

Further to the Prime Minister’s announcement and our update yesterday we would like to provide further information relating to the next 4 weeks.

Summary:

- Tuesday 24 and Wednesday 25 March – school is closed to all students other than for students from families of essential service workers.
- At 11.59pm on Wednesday 25 March New Zealand moves into Alert Level 4 and all schools close completely. For the remainder of this week (Tuesday 24 – Friday 27 March) teachers and students will establish and trial online distance learning.
- The government have moved school holidays forward. These will take place from 30 March – 14 April.
- On 15 April Term 2 commences with students and schools working remotely and engaged in online distance learning.
- On 23 April school may resume as usual, however this date may be extended by the Prime Minister and cabinet.

Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday	Sunday
23 March Move to Level 3	24 March Essential services students only Staff prepare for distance learning	25 March Essential services students only Staff prepare for distance learning	26 March School closed Initiate distance learning, establish contact, set some work	27 March School closed Initiate distance learning, establish contact, set some work	28 March	29 March
30 March School Holidays – no distance learning	31 March School Holidays – no distance learning	1 April School Holidays – no distance learning	2 April School Holidays – no distance learning	3 April School Holidays – no distance learning	4 April	5 April
6 April School Holidays – no distance learning	7 April School Holidays – no distance learning	8 April School Holidays – no distance learning	9 April School Holidays – no distance learning	10 April School Holidays – no distance learning	11 April	12 April
13 April School Holidays – no distance learning	14 April School Holidays – No distance learning	15 April Begin term two Distance learning programme	16 April Distance learning programme	17 April Distance learning programme	18 April	19 April
20 April Distance learning programme	21 April Distance learning programme	22 April Distance learning programme	23 April Lock-down period ends or is extended	24 April Lock-down period ends or is extended	25 April	26 April

This week: Preparing for Online Distance Learning

Over the next few days, teachers will be in contact with students to establish and trial online remote access as mentioned in our communications yesterday. Teachers may also set a small amount of work that students can use as a test and undertake through the holiday period.

A Guideline for Online Distance Learning will be sent to students and families prior to Term 2 commencing on 15 April. At that time when online distance learning commences please plan for your students to spend a similar amount of time on each subject, where possible, as they would at school.

Chromebooks

We have a very limited supply of Chromebooks available to be issued to students who do not have access to a device at home. We have made email contact today with students and their families that have previously indicated that they

do not have any device available for students. Please [email](#) Associate Deputy Principal Llywelyn Adlam if you do not have a device. We are only able to provide one device per family, and senior students will be prioritized to assist them with their studies towards NCEA.

The Waimea College Library will be open between 10.00am-1.00pm on Wednesday 25 March 2020, to enable families to collect the device for use during this online distance learning period.

Collection of Course Material

Many students have already taken home workbooks, folders etc that may be of use in the coming weeks.

Teaching staff have today placed some teaching resources in the library, for example SciPads and textbooks. Those students who wish to collect them can do so from the Library Computer Suite between 10.00am-1.00pm on Wednesday 25 March.

International students

Our International Team will continue to support our students as best they can in the current situation. Please spare a thought for these young people who are stranded far from home during this difficult time.

Wellbeing Resources/Guidance - Students

Along with the teaching resources that will be made available, we want to ensure that students are well supported in terms of their wellbeing during this difficult time.

Students can call the following organisations for support:

[Whats Up](#) 0800 942 8787

[Youth Line](#) 0800 376 633 Txt 234

Our Guidance Team is also available to provide support. Students or families can e-mail directly to arrange further contact.

Email address of Guidance Staff

Stuart Newby – stuart.newby@waimea.school.nz

Alison Browning – alison.browning@waimea.school.nz

Simon Goodwin – simon.goodwin@waimea.school.nz

Danni Taylor – danni.taylor@waimea.school.nz

Louise Pawson – louise.pawson@waimea.school.nz

Jayne Keys – jayne.keys@waimea.school.nz

Communication

We are expecting that this will be our last update for the time being. However, please rest assured that we will be back in contact if things change.

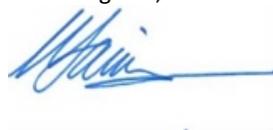


Also a reminder to parents that information will be made available on our [school website](#) main Homepage and the [Waimea College Facebook Page](#), however one of the best ways to stay informed is by downloading the School App and allowing push notifications. Scan the QR code to download the App.

I would like to acknowledge our staff for the calm and professional way in which they have supported our students during this period. I also want to thank our students for their courage and for the care that they have shown to others. What a magic community we are!

To each of you, be safe in the days ahead.

Warm regards,

A handwritten signature in blue ink, appearing to read 'Scott Haines', written over a light blue horizontal line.

Scott Haines
Principal