



25 August 2020

**Kia ora koutou,**

Yesterday the Prime Minister announced that the current Alert Level 2 restrictions will remain in place and will be reviewed on Sunday 6 September.

#### **Alert Level 2 Reminders – Guidelines from Ministry**

We take this opportunity to remind everyone of the Alert Level 2 health guidelines within schools:

- At alert Level 2 it is safe for all students to attend school.
- Those who are at higher risk of severe illness are encouraged to take additional precautions when leaving home.
- Please keep your teen at home if they are unwell.
- Encourage your teen to maintain good hand hygiene and cough/sneeze etiquette.
- Keeping the appropriate physical distance from others (in class this means no touching each other and keeping out of breathing distance).
- Enhanced cleaning and disinfecting of high touch surfaces continues to occur daily.
- If visiting the school, please use the NZ COVID Tracer App to scan the QR code posters at our main reception area and other high use areas, or sign-in using the visitor register.

#### **Upcoming Events**

##### **Parent Information Evening – Keeping Teens Safe Around Alcohol – Thursday 27 August 2020**

Following the Prime Minister's announcement regarding the extension of Alert Level 2, this information evening has been postponed. We will provide further information as to when this might be re-scheduled later in the year.

##### **Teacher Only Day – Thursday 3 September 2020**

We wish to advise that Waimea College will be closed for instruction on Thursday 3 September 2020 to allow for staff to participate in professional development regarding curriculum development and culturally responsive practices.

As all our staff at Waimea College will be involved in the Teacher Only Day, the College including Special Education will be closed for instruction during this time. We appreciate your support and apologise in advance for any inconvenience this may cause to you and your family.

##### **Regional Secondary School Mid-Term Break – Friday 4 September 2020**

Please be advised that Friday 4 September 2020 is a mid-term break for all secondary schools in the Nelson/Tasman region. Waimea College will be closed for instruction during this time.

##### **Face Masks made Mandatory on Public Transport**

Earlier this week the Prime Minister announced there has been a change to Alert Level 2 guidelines regarding face masks. It is now mandatory for people to use masks on public transport (effective from Monday 31 August 2020) at Alert Level 2 and above.

Naturally we are keen to understand whether the requirement to wear face masks on public transport will apply to school transport settings. We understand that the Ministry of Education will release specific advice and guidance for schools about this later in the week. We will share updates as soon as we hear more.

Masks are not required to be worn at school, although staff and students are most welcome to wear masks at school should they wish.

Thank you for your continued support and understanding as we navigate our way through these uncertain times.

Ngā mihi nui,

**Scott Haines**  
Principal