



October 12 2021

Kia ora Reremoana whānau,

Government has kept with their cautious approach when responding to COVID-19, and as a result, we will stay at Alert Level 3 for a bit longer. This means we are unfortunately unable to fully open following the holiday break on October 18 as we had hoped.

We are proud of how our community has responded to this outbreak, but the mahi isn't yet done. Please continue to follow all the alert level requirements including staying at home and getting tested for COVID-19 if you are feeling unwell, and for your own sake and for the health of your whānau, please get vaccinated. I have included some [information about vaccinations](#) to support decision making.

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. We will continue to support all children who remain learning from home through our distance learning programme.

For those of you with no other option, we will open once more on Monday 18 October for only the small number of children who need to attend. All our usual safety precautions for Alert Level 3 will be in place which include all the recommendations from the public health experts. This means students will be kept in bubbles of no more than 10.

- *If your child/ren was/were at Bubble School prior to the holidays and needs to return in Term 4, [please complete this form](#).*
- *If your child/ren was/were NOT at Bubble School prior to the holidays but you now find yourself in a position where there is no one to care for them from within your household or extended bubble and therefore you need to send your child to Bubble School in Term 4, [please complete this form](#).*

Our staff on-site will also have been tested for COVID-19 before they get back to work and we are moving toward having 100 percent of our staff vaccinated – so we are all playing our part in keeping our community safe.

It is now legally required that we hold a COVID-19 vaccination register for all eligible students and staff. If you have a child aged 12+ we will therefore need to know if your child has had their first or second vaccine dose or is exempted from being vaccinated. This information will be

held by us in accordance with the Privacy Act and will only be shared with public health authorities. We are currently getting our data collection system in place and will get in touch with you again regarding this very soon.

These are the very best things we can do to keep our community as safe as possible and get everyone back to school.

Please be aware that we receive the government information at exactly the same time as the rest of New Zealand - we don't get any 'heads up' and are often left waiting for details and clarification on information shared in the government's press conferences, which comes to us via the Ministry of Education later that day or week. I know some of you will have questions and do feel free to ask them. I may not have the answers at my fingertips as I may need to wait and/or seek advice. We are committed to timely and transparent communication with you, which is often dependent on the expediency and timelines of others.

Ngā mihi,

Lynn Fothergill
Acting Principal
Reremoana School