

## Community Update:

12th November, 2021

Dear Parents and Caregivers,

Thank you to everyone who has completed the attendance survey. We have had responses from close to 75% of our families so far and, of these, a huge number have indicated that they will keep their children at home for the remainder of the school term, which goes a long way to supporting us to keep the numbers on site as manageable as possible and in line with Ministry of Education and Ministry of Health requirements.

We can assure you that remote learning will continue to be available and your children will not be disadvantaged by staying home. You will continue to receive your Sunday update and Remote Learning, as usual. We do ask that you check your child's learning each week, as teams will be making some changes to zoom sessions, once all staff are back on-site.

To those families who have indicated their children will be attending school in a part-time capacity we have considered multiple scenarios for how this could possibly work over the 20.5 days that school can be open. Our goal has been to keep things simple for families, while meeting all the necessary health and safety guidelines. As such, attendance on-site will be as follows:

### **Year 8 students**

**ALL Year 8 students** can return to school, **full-time** from **Wednesday 17th November**, until the final day of the term, Wednesday 15th December. This is not compulsory, however, the majority of our Year 8 students are able to be vaccinated and we want them to have the opportunity to finish their time at school with their teachers and their peers, before they move off to high school. We will be in touch with all our Year 8 parents directly, with more information.

### **Year 0-7**

All other families who have indicated they will return part-time, have been placed into one of 3 groups and children will attend school on a roster of days, **beginning Friday 19th November**. This will allow each group to attend school for 6 full days, over the coming weeks. We will be providing specific information to these families about which group their children are in and which days they will be attending, to avoid any confusion and you can expect this later today.

It is very important that your children only attend on their rostered days. These days will not be consecutive and there is no option to swap or change days, as we have carefully considered the numbers in each group, to allow for an even spread across the school and it is simply not possible to give everyone the days they would prefer.

When children attend on their rostered days, they will be working in their usual Hapori space, with their normal teachers, wherever possible. When not at school, they should be engaging with the Remote Learning programme, as normal. Staff will be working to ensure these programmes operate as seamlessly as possible, whether students are on-site or learning at home.

Please note that we will not be following up attendance if your children DO NOT come to school on their rostered days.

### **Health and Safety Protocols**

Our Term 4 Protocols will come into effect on Wednesday 17th November and will remain in place until further notice. There are very specific requirements around drop-off/pick-up and we ask that you please read these thoroughly and share them with any other adults who will be dropping off or collecting your children on their rostered days.

### **Of most importance:**

- NO parents/caregivers are to be within the fenced areas of the school, at any time.
- Masks are required to be worn by all parents/caregivers at pick up and drop-off.
- All students Year 4 and up will also be required to wear a mask when entering school in the morning and when exiting in the afternoon. They will also be required to wear their mask while inside, during the school day. If this is going to be a problem for your child, you will need to reconsider their attendance at school.

We understand that some parents will be disappointed with this part-time arrangement, however, we can assure you we have made these decisions with the best interests of our students and staff in mind, as we bring to a close what has been a very disrupted second semester.

Families who plan to send their children part-time can expect to hear from us on Monday 15th November, with your children's attendance group and rostered days. This information will be sent via Hero and we will also notify you via Skoolbag, when this information has been posted.

Once again we would like to thank our parent community for their ongoing support and understanding, through what has been a very unusual time. To those families who will be keeping their children at home, we want you to know that we appreciate your decision to do this, as it allows us to keep the numbers at school as safe and manageable as possible and we can assure you that our high quality remote learning programmes will continue.

Please be assured that our staff are committed to making this new programme work for all our families. As always, we are here to support you or answer any questions you may have.