



12 August 2020

Dear Parents / Family / Whanau

In response to the Prime Minister's announcement last night, the Bay of Plenty region has moved to Alert Level 2 as from midday Wednesday through to midnight Friday, due to 4 COVID cases in Auckland. At this stage this is simply a precautionary measure.

As per Level 2 protocols, all students are expected to attend school for the next three days. Due to the restrictions on gatherings of over 100 people at Level 2, we have no choice but to cancel our Parent Teacher Interviews on Thursday 13 August. Thursday will instead revert back to a normal school day.

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

Our school has safe and sensible practices to maintain the health and safety of everyone on the school site. Good hygiene practices will continue to keep our school a safe place. This includes staff and students coughing into their elbows, handwashing and drying their hands and the regular cleaning of commonly touched surfaces.

While there has been increasing messages in the media about the wearing of masks, the Ministry of Education guidance to schools is that masks are not required at schools and early learning services at Alert levels 2 and 3. However, if a student would like to wear a mask at school during Alert level 2, we encourage them to do so.

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.

If your child is a bus student, please know that buses will be running as usual. However, bus 904a will be restricted to seated passengers only from Wednesday afternoon through to the lifting of Level 2.

During these times we understand it can be quite overwhelming and your child(ren) may need support. If you need additional support please let our Counselling Support Team know. Students can either hand in a referral slip to the Wellness Centre, or alternatively they can be contacted via email at [guidance@otc.school.nz](mailto:guidance@otc.school.nz).

Please be assured that we have well established practices and that our school continues to be a safe place during these uncertain times.

Sincerely

Russell Gordon  
Principal