

St Dominic's College Whānau Pānui 5/03/2021



Kia ora whānau,

Great news today with no community cases meaning that we can return to school on Monday.

Thank you for all you have done this week to support your daughter, their teachers and the whole College community.

Although it has been great to see several days with no new community cases, Dr Bloomfield has clearly stated that new cases are still possible and we need to continue to act with caution and do the right thing to keep our community safe.

With new variants and changed requirements for contacts of cases, New Zealand's COVID response seems to be more complex and sometimes it isn't clear what "the right thing" actually is.

The basics still work

As individuals we have a large amount of control over how we can prevent the spread of COVID-19. Even with the new variants of the virus, the most important things we can do remain the same:

For our College, we:

- have displayed QR code posters for the NZ COVID Tracer app and ask all visitors onsite to scan in
- keep our visitor register, attendance register and timetables up to date to help with contact tracing if needed
- continue to monitor for illness and ask anyone who is unwell to remain at home, or to go home
- encourage people with relevant symptoms to seek medical advice through Health-line (0800 358 5453) or their GP and get tested for COVID if recommended to do so
- continue to reinforce the importance of good hand washing and drying
- continue to reinforce good cough and sneeze etiquette
- continue to clean and disinfect high-touch surfaces regularly

Your whānau will also have good practices to follow to keep yourselves safe:

- check in using the NZ COVID Tracer app everywhere you go (the sooner you get notified that you were at a location of interest, the easier it will be to keep yourself and your whānau safe)
- switch on the Bluetooth function on the app (go to the dashboard in the app to do this)
- always stay home if you are unwell and seek advice from Health-line (0800 358 5453) or your GP
- get tested if recommended to do so. Testing is free to everyone in New Zealand!
- wash and dry hands thoroughly and frequently
- practise good cough and sneeze etiquette
- regularly clean and disinfect high-touch surfaces in your home
- wear face coverings on public transport
- for those of you who think you might have been at a [location of interest](#) at the specified time, follow the instructions on the [Ministry of Health website](#) or if you are unsure what to do, contact Health-line (0800 358 5453) for advice about getting tested

Sports and other activities

Some activities can still take place under Alert Level 2, and we will be following the guidance of the Ministry of Health and the Ministry of Education in all instances. Parents and guardians will be communicated with in regards to any upcoming scheduled event, tournament, or competition, with details of cancellation, postponement or change of plan.

Support for students and families

If you or someone you know is experiencing hardship, there is support available through a range of agencies. Vinnies (St Vincent de Paul) in Auckland Central is able to provide food parcels for families.

Phone: 0800 680 090 or 09 815 6122 Email: auckland@stvinnies.co.nz

College Guidance Counsellor Katrina Johnson kjohnson@stdoms.ac.nz

School Nurse Rose Cairns-Morrison schoolnurse@stdoms.ac.nz

Feeling unwell and displaying symptoms of COVID-19?

Visit www.healthpoint.co.nz for your closest testing station

Some Handy website links:

<https://covid19.govt.nz/>

[Ministry of Health](#)

[Lifeline](#)

Health-line ph: 0800 358 5453



Take care whānau, and have a good and safe weekend.

Ngā manaakitanga,

Anna Swann