



22 July 2022

Kia ora koutou,

We hope that you have had a wonderful two weeks making memories with your children, in whichever form that takes. Our staff have been busy planning for the term ahead and there are many wonderful learning activities coming up including book week, the life education caravan, healthy food initiative and so much more! Term three is going to be the best term yet!

There are important updates that have been implemented by the Ministry of Health and Ministry of Education that take effect from Monday 25th July in relation to Orange Setting of the COVID19 Protection Framework and keeping winter illnesses away. They require us to amend our safety planning and mask-wearing policy/protocols. We have outlined these below so that we can ensure a safe learning environment for all.

Masking up for the start of Term 3

Cases of COVID-19 are increasing in most parts of the country, and we are also seeing high numbers of other winter illnesses. As a result, for a minimum of the first four weeks of term 3 there is a **requirement** for mask wearing in all indoor settings for students in Years 4 and above. This is to be reviewed by the Ministry in week 4 and we will keep you updated as to the requirements for week 5 onwards. We highly recommend mask wearing in Years 1-3 also.

Where mask wearing might not be practicable, such as while eating and drinking, indoor sport, or where it will have a significant impact on teaching and learning (for example, students with particular learning needs), we will ensure there is good ventilation during the activity, and physical distancing where practicable.

Our mask wearing protocol works alongside other measures including vaccination, good ventilation, staying home when sick, hand washing and other hygiene measures, to protect our students and staff. You can find out more about mask wearing here:

[Face masks | Unite against COVID-19 \(covid19.govt.nz\)](https://www.covid19.govt.nz/face-masks)

[How to wear a face mask safely | Unite against COVID-19 \(covid19.govt.nz\)](https://www.covid19.govt.nz/how-to-wear-a-face-mask-safely)

We need your help to keep everyone safe, healthy and learning

Please make sure that tamariki/ākonga come to school ready to wear masks. Students should bring masks from home from Monday 25 July 2022. If students cannot bring masks from home, we can provide a mask for them. The requirement for any visitors to wear masks whilst on school grounds remains.

A reminder about start and finish times

School starts at 8.25. We are reintroducing the 2.30 finish for all students. This will be monitored and reviewed, and we will inform you if we need to amend this in regard to COVID safety planning.

Thank you for your support in protecting our school community. Together we continue to make a positive difference to our students and our community.

Noho oro mai,

Denise Horley
Acting Principal