

Hororata Primary School



PRINCIPAL'S BULLETIN

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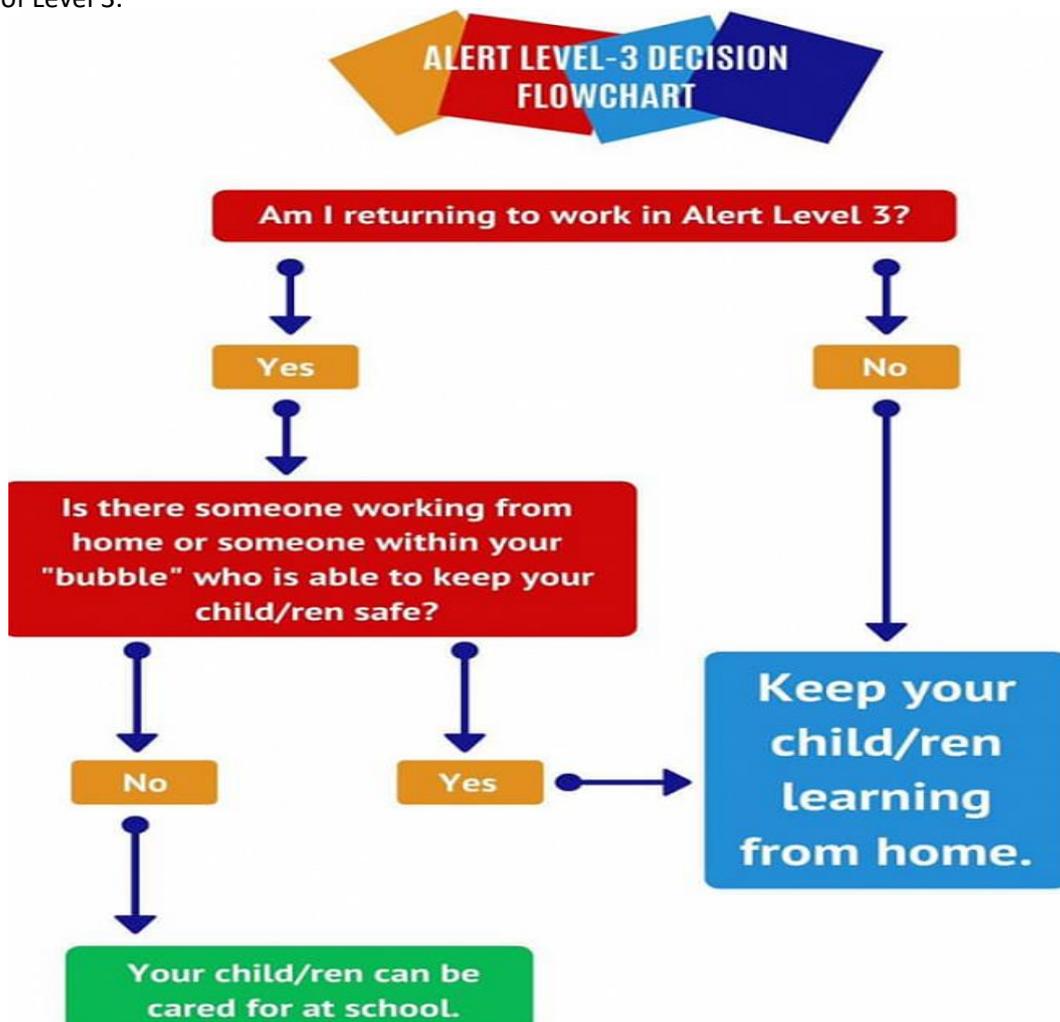
Executive Summary

New Zealand is moving to Alert Level 3 at 11.59pm on Monday 27 April for at least two weeks. The purpose of this document is to inform you how learning at Hororata Primary School will change in response to the alert changes.

- Overview
- Back-to-School
- HPS Distance Learning Programme (DLP)

Overview

School onsite will only be for those who absolutely need it. Distance Learning will continue. If you can keep your child at home you should. Students cannot come and go. Attendance needs to be consistent for the duration of Level 3.



Back-to-School

The following are based on the M.O.E. guidelines.

School will be very different:

- Students must stay home if they can.
- Students/Staff at higher risk of severe illness must stay at home.
- Students/Staff must stay home if unwell.
- Students will be required to sit in the same spot every day and keep a one-metre distance from each other inside and two metres outside.
- Students and Teachers will be in bubbles of 10.
- Whanau will be kept in the same bubble.
- No bubbles will mix.
- Each bubble will have their allocated hand washing, sanitising and toilet facilities.
- Students will be taught by teachers other than their normal classroom teachers.
- Children will all be placed in one Learning Bubble consisting of students and teachers (incl. principal). This bubble will work in the Piwi classroom.
- All available teachers will be part of the one Learning Bubble and will be rostered on different days of the week in teams of three (incl. principal).
- Teachers can and will undertake DLP duties during class time - as long as one staff member is present at all times to supervise learners.
- Teacher aides are not required to attend work during Alert Level 3.
- Distance learning continues for all. The onsite students will be supervised completing their assigned work.
- Students can't participate in any activities at lunch or during physical education that require them being closer than two metres or touching shared equipment e.g., balls, ropes & sticks.

The safety of students and staff means we will be operating under strict enforcement of the following health and safety measures.

- Surfaces will be cleaned and disinfected daily.
- No shaking hands, sharing cups, eating utensils and resources is advised.
- No volunteers on site.
- The School playground incl. the sandpit remains closed during Alert Level 3.
- The School grounds are closed to the public.
- The School office will be locked; knock and we will respond.
- Hygiene measures such as frequent hand washing, coughing protocols, having hand sanitiser available in classrooms and bathrooms, and daily cleaning of all surfaces will be maintained.
- Contact tracing registers will be set up to identify which children are in each teaching space, record when and who they have contact with during the day if that changes. This includes recording who the adults are in contact with as well as recording any visitors to the site, including parents.

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Students attending

Hororata Primary School will be open from Wednesday April 29 2020 for families who need to send their children. We are looking forward to welcoming those students who are coming back and want to reassure you that we will be doing everything we can to keep your children as safe as possible.

Initial indications are that we will have a very small group of children and a majority of our teaching team in attendance. The following information pertains to these students and families:

- **School will be open from 0845 – 1500hrs (incl. drop-off/pick-up windows).**
- **When dropping off students, junior students may be taken to the door of their block. Others to the gate. No caregivers are permitted to enter buildings. This also applies to after school.**
- **No water fountains are to be used during Alert Level 3. Student will need to bring their own drink bottles.**
- **The school canteen and Fonterra Milk in Schools programme will be suspended during Level 3.**
- **Normal procedures for notifying the school of a student's absence apply during Alert Level 3.**
- **No school bus transport is available during Alert Level 3.**

HPS Distance Learning Programme

The HPS Distance Learning Programme will take a break over ANZAC weekend and will return on Wednesday 29 April 2020. We will be giving families a break on Tuesday 28 April as, one, you deserve it and two, and we need to have a Teacher Only Day to enable us to put in place the finishing touches of the blended onsite/distance learning programme we will be running over the next few weeks. This will be the first time in nearly five weeks we have touched base face-to-face for teaching and planning.

He aha te mea nui, i te ao? He tangata, he tangata, he tangata.

What is the most important thing in the world? 'Tis people, 'tis people, 'tis people.

He waka eke noa

We are all in this waka together

Ngā mihi nui

Marty Gameson (Principal - Tumuaki)



COVID-19 Parenting Tip

The COVID-19 coronavirus has upended family life around the world, closing schools, forcing parents to work remotely and cutting people off from their friends and family.

The so-called new normal is a lot to take in for everyone, but even more so for parents, carers and the children that depend on them.

With many families around the world forced to stay at home, the World Health Organization (WHO) has published six one-page tips for parents, covering everything from creating a new routine to managing stress and talking about the COVID-19 pandemic.

Here are its suggestions:

- 1. Spend some quality time together...** First up is setting aside some time to spend with each of your children and asking them what they would like to do. The suggestions include reading a book, looking at pictures, going for a walk, dancing, doing a chore together, playing games or helping them study.
- 2. Keep it positive...** Using positive language and praising your child or teenager for something they have done well is the second tip. This will help reassure them that you notice what they're doing and care about it. The WHO also advises keeping it real when it comes to your expectations – asking yourself, what's actually achievable?
"It is very hard for a child to keep quiet inside for a whole day...But maybe they can keep quiet for 15 minutes while you are on a call.
- 3. Have some structure...** Having a consistent daily routine will help shape your day. This might mean making a schedule that has time for structured activities, as well as free time to help children feel more secure. They may want to join in and help plan the day – like making a school timetable.
- 4. Manage acting out...** The WHO recommends three steps for dealing with bad behaviour. First, if you can catch it early, redirect or distract by suggesting you go outside or for a walk. If that doesn't work, take a 10-second pause before you respond, breathe in and out slowly five times, and then try to respond in a calmer way. The final recommendation is to instill consequences.
"Give your child a choice to follow your instruction before giving them the consequence," the WHO says. "Once the consequence is over, give your child a chance to do something good, and praise them for it."
- 5. Take steps to manage stress...** Managing stress is a big one for families stuck at home. Taking time for yourself - even if it's just a five-minute cup of tea, meditation or exercise - can help.
"Be open and listen to your children," the WHO says. "Your children will look to you for support and reassurance. Accept how they feel and give them comfort."
- 6. Talk openly about the virus...** The final tip relates to mitigating the anxiety that children may be feeling about the pandemic. We're all exposed to so much news and constant updates via social media that it can be hard to avoid thinking about COVID-19 even for a few minutes.
Here, the WHO advocates a transparent approach - talking to your children openly about what's going on and admitting when you don't have all the answers.
"Check to see if your child is OK," the WHO urges. "Remind them that you care and that they can talk to you anytime. Then do something fun together!"

More information is available at:

<https://www.who.int/emergencies/diseases/novel-coronavirus-2019/advice-for-public/healthy-parenting>