



Friday 28th January, 2022.

Kia ora koutou; Kia orana, Tolafa lava, Malo e lelei, Fakalofa lahi ahu, Ni sa bula, Namaste, Ni Sa Bula; Ni Hao; As-salamu Alaykum; Greetings to our Sir Keith Park School community

WELCOME BACK EVERYONE: SIR KEITH PARK SCHOOL & SATELLITE CLASSES

LOOKING FORWARD NGA KAUPAPA E NEI MAI NEI

Welcome to the 2022 school year. We hope you all had a relaxing and pleasurable summer break.

School opens again to all students on Tuesday February 1st, 2022. We are looking forward to a great year, and welcoming all students back to school every day. Thanks to Omicron Virus in New Zealand communities, there are health and safety measures in place again.

On Monday 24th January the Prime Minister announced that NZ was moving to the Red Level of the Covid Protection Framework. On Tuesday 25th January the Secretary for Education confirmed:

- Schools, along with most other services, will remain open onsite at all colour settings, for all students to attend, subject to health and safety settings.
- While it is unlikely that schools will be closed for public health reasons, the board may consider that in extreme circumstances staff and students may need to work from home for a period of time – i.e if a large number of staff are unable to be at school.
- Because every school and community situation will be different, the overall approach is that schools will determine the best way to approach this. Specialist schools and other learning support facilities will need to work with students and their parents on a case-by-case basis to plan for students to return safely to school.

We know this will be great news to some, and cause others anxiety and concern.

Key Health Measures under the Framework:

Vaccinations:

- All workers in schools are Double Vaccinated. They are now mandated to have a Booster dose.
- Parents and caregivers now have the opportunity to protect their tamariki aged 5 to 11 against COVID-19, by being immunised with a child formulation of the Pfizer vaccine.
- The school will ask if your child is vaccinated. If you do not wish to tell us, we shall assume that your child is not vaccinated. The Principal will keep a confidential register of students' vaccine status.
- NO child / young person will be refused access to school due to vaccination status.
- The school plans to host a vaccination clinic in the near future. We shall share that information with you as soon as we know the details

Masks:

- The Government confirmed Monday that masks (not face coverings) will be required at Red Level for children and staff in Years 4 and above when indoors and when in school transport. This requirement will take effect nine days from the announcement.

- The Government is also now **requiring** that a **face covering be an actual mask**. That means no more scarves, bandannas, or t-shirts pulled up over the face, for example. This is to ensure that it is a mask designed to cover your nose and mouth properly.
- A reminder that there are a number of exemptions to wearing a mask including if you have to communicate with someone who is deaf or hard of hearing, or the person has a physical or mental health illness or condition or disability that makes wearing a face covering unsuitable.

Ventilation:

- Maintaining good ventilation in schools is recommended at all levels of the COVID-19 Protection Framework. Keeping windows and doors open as much as we can to keep fresh air moving through our classrooms is the fastest and best way to ventilate a space.
- We will also take some lessons outdoors when appropriate.
- The MOE is considering air purifiers for some schools / classes on a case by case basis.

Health & Safety:

Even with the Omicron variant, the risk of COVID-19 transmission in schools is considered to be low because of all the public health measures we will have in place. We will:

- keep those onsite in separate groups which do not intermingle with each other inside or outside the classroom
- ensure any classrooms we use are well ventilated
- continue to practice physical distancing where possible (1m inside and 2m outside)
- ensure all staff (and external contractors) who are on site are fully vaccinated.
- ensure staff wear a mask throughout the day
- disinfect and clean all surfaces daily
- require anyone who is unwell, self-isolating, or who has been advised by health authorities to remain at home while they wait for their COVID-19 test results, not to come to school
- not have any volunteers, visitors, or parents in the classrooms

SESTA (Specialised School Transport Assistance):

The Ministry of Education understands that many of our students will not tolerate wearing a mask, and have communicated this to the taxi company. They do, however expect that the drivers will wear face covering.

Hand-over of students:

Base School:

1. All students will enter and leave through the student door. Their hands will be washed / sanitised upon arrival and before departure.
2. Taxis will be unloaded / loaded strictly one at a time.
3. Parents who bring their child need to either join the taxi queue OR park in Bingara Ave – walk your child to the student door = hand to a duty staff member, and leave.
4. Staff on duty will be monitoring for anyone presenting with signs of illness:
 - Check temperature of all upon arrival
 - Visual check for signs of symptoms
 - Students with a temperature / obvious signs of being unwell will not go to class, and will be sent straight home.

5. Student door will be locked between 8.45am and 2.45pm.
6. If you bring your child after 8.45am: Knock on front door. Inform Pina you are there, and wait outside with your child for staff member to come and accept your child.
7. In the afternoon. Park your car in Bingara Place, (or join the taxi queue). Inform Pina that you are here. Wait outside. Pina will ring the class and your child will be brought to the front door.

Satellite Classes: Parents who transport their child:

1. Until 8.45am, a staff member will meet you near the front of the school, where you will hand over your child.
2. If you arrive after 8.45am you need to wait outside the school and text the teacher to say you are there. Wait outside with your child for the staff member to come.
3. Staff on duty will be monitoring for anyone presenting with signs of illness:
 - Check temperature of all upon arrival
 - Visual check for signs of symptoms
 - Students with a temperature / obvious signs of being unwell will not go to class, and will be sent straight home.
4. After school, wait outside the school. Your child will be brought out at the end of the day by our staff.

Contact Registering:

- Schools are required to display QR code posters for the NZ COVID Tracer App. QR Code posters are displayed at the entrance to Base School and all Satellite Classes. Please use them.
- Sign in registers for each area of the school, including satellite classes
 1. Regular attendees (Staff, taxi drivers for example) will be listed for ease of use
 2. Others - when allowed on site - sign in upon arrival and departure at office (for our school records)
 3. Until further notice, parents are not to come into the school / satellite class. If you need to speak with the teacher, leave your phone number and convenient time, and we shall ring you.

Our Programme Changes at Red Level:

- Limited EOTC activities - visits to local open spaces will be given consideration
- Supervised class walks around the block will be considered
- Work experience out of the school will be limited – and reliant upon mask wearing, vaccination status and the host facility
- No sharing food or Class Cooking. Individual sessions may occur as long as hygiene measures can be managed, and staffing ratios allow
- Singing and exercise will only occur outdoors
- Reduce the use of shared equipment - have individual 'sets' of things as applicable and able
- Interactive programmes - may be adapted or look a bit different for a while.
- No swimming activities – pool will remain closed for now.
- No group gatherings such as Assemblies, culture groups

COVID-19 symptoms

Everyone from the school should watch for the symptoms of COVID-19 – both Delta and Omicron. These can include one or more of the following:

- New or worsening dry cough
- Sore throat
- Fever (Delta mostly)
- Temporary loss of smell
- Difficulty breathing
- Runny nose
- Constant sneezing (Omicron)

Please call your doctor or Healthline (0800 358 5453) if you or your child has any symptoms. They will explain what to do. You can also visit www.arphs.health.nz or www.covid19.govt.nz.

Questions or Concerns:

Thank you for taking the time to familiarise yourself with our safety procedures. If you have any questions or concerns, please contact the Syndicate Leader for your child's class:

Heather Dellow: Deputy Principal: heather.dellow@skp.school.nz
SKP Rooms 2, 3, 9, Waterlea and Robertson Road satellite classes

Teeshan Padayatchi: Deputy Principal: teeshan.padayatchi@skp.school.nz
SKP Rooms 1, 4, 5, 7, 10, Sir Douglas Bader Intermediate Satellite Classes

Rabin Chattergoon: Assistant Principal: rabin.chattergoon@skp.school.nz
SKP Rooms 6, & 8, Mangere College Satellite Classes

Or myself:

Kathy Davidson: Principal principal@skp.school.nz 0211955855 / 2754455

We can do this, together. Kia Kaha.

Kathy Davidson, Principal / Tumuaki

