

Cromwell College COVID 19 Parent Update Alert Level 3 - 24 April 2020

Kia ora koutou e te whānau

It is hard to believe that it has been over 4 weeks since Alert Level 4 began. I hope that throughout that time that you and your whānau have coped well with the many challenges. I hope also that Level 3 allows some greater flexibility and opportunity for you all.

Thank you for completing the survey for students attending school next week. At present we are expecting between 20 and 30 Year 7-10 students which will mean 2 or 3 bubbles or Pods of students supervised at school. The school day will run from 9am to 3pm each day. We are currently confirming the staffing, rooming and timetable for each Pod. We will communicate with families on Tuesday the plan for each student's arrival and their school day on Wednesday. Please note that Tuesday has been stipulated by the Ministry of Education as a staff only day for schools across Aotearoa. There will be no teaching delivery on this day by staff.

Health and wellbeing is our focus for staff, students and parents as school reopens in Alert Level 3. I believe it is worth sharing this advice again from the Ministry of Education and the Ministry of Health:

- A key defence against the spread of coronavirus is physical distancing (2 metres outside and 1 metre inside), washing and drying hands, good cough and sneeze etiquette and regularly cleaning surfaces.
- Students and staff are expected to stay home if sick and report flu-like symptoms.
- Symptoms to monitor for are any respiratory symptoms such as a cold, a head cold, blocked ears, cough, sneezing, chills and a fever. Anyone with those symptoms should stay home and contact Healthline for advice, which may include getting tested for COVID-19.

Here is a reminder of the measures we are using in school to keep staff and students safe and well and to support any potential contact tracing:

- On arrival students are to go directly to their allocated Pod classroom.
- Pods of 10 students will be supervised by a specified team of staff. We will structure the class time to provide some variety for students.
- Each student will have their own desk and chair in that classroom.
- There can be no sharing of equipment or food. Students must bring to school what they will need for the day eg computer, charger, paper, pens, colour pencils, lunch, drink bottle etc. A chart is attached to help remind students. Here is the [link](#)
- To reduce contact, Pods will be allocated to different areas of the school with designated common room space and toilets. Break times will be staggered.

- There can be no physical recreation that will bring students into contact with others. We are considering some acceptable forms of recreation in break times to provide variety in the day.
- We will be monitoring hygiene and the regular cleaning of surfaces. Hand cleanser is being provided for entries into classroom, toilets and Pod areas.
- We will be checking attendance carefully and maintaining a contact register for all visitors and staff entering the school site each day.

We have also received advice to support the parents of students attending school next week. The main aim is to reduce the potential for congregation of students and parents.

- When delivering your child to school please drop them a short distance away so they are less likely to join up with others outside their Pod.
- If you are walking to school with your children please maintain a 2m distance from those who are not part of your household or workplace/school bubble.
- Parents are requested not to enter the school grounds apart from the school office.
- Our school office is a small space. Please be aware of the 2m distancing and consider waiting outside with a one in and one out approach.

All students, whether learning at home or at school, will continue with their own online learning programmes currently being delivered by teachers. Students are expected to be in school uniform and will need to bring their lunch to school.

I appreciate that I have shared a lot of detail here but feel it is important for families to be informed fully about the plans for those students who are on site next week.

All for now. I wish you a peaceful and refreshing ANZAC weekend. If you have not done so, I encourage you to watch the wonderful ANZAC day tribute created by our outstanding Prefect team and shared with you today.

Noho ora mai rā, be safe, well and take care.

Mason Stretch
Principal