

CROMWELL COLLEGE COVID 19 PARENT UPDATE 6 7 April 2020

Kia ora koutou e te whānau

As we enter Week 2 of the school holidays and head towards Easter our team is continuing to prepare for the start of Term 2 on Wednesday 15 April.

Guidelines on our approach to online learning - 'going remote' will be shared with families on Thursday 9 April. These will be shared again on the Monday or Tuesday before school. We will also share some 'how to' videos for parents to support your child with our Google Classroom learning.

Formal online curriculum delivery starts on 15 April and we are expecting all students to be engaging and learning through what is offered. It is important that Year 11, 12 and 13 students keep up to date with the learning and NCEA assessment requirements.

We will be returning to school at some stage and 'catching up' will not be realistic. We want all our students to be approaching their learning for Term 2 with commitment and the expectation that there is mahi to do. We realise of course this needs to blend with family life at home. There is a link below in the Ministry of Education Bulletin with ideas to support parents with learning at home.

Internet and computer access. We are checking again this week on who needs support with this. We have several Chromebooks available and the Ministry of Education is looking to assist families with no internet access. Greg Thomson gregthomson@cromwell.school.nz will be sharing a survey this week to gather this information. Please contact Greg or Steve Hodkinson stevhodkinson@cromwell.school.nz if you have questions on this.

The latest Ministry of Education Covid Update contains resources that are also useful for whānau on learning at home and wellbeing. These are detailed below.

I hope that all of our school whānau continue to be safe, well, kind and connected and in positive spirits during the lockdown period.

Noho ora mai rā

Mason Stretch
Principal

School Special Bulletin – COVID-19

2 April

We encourage you to take some time away from the constant news cycle and social media postings about the virus. However, balance becomes even more important in times such as these. It's important to give our minds and bodies what they need to stay healthy – good food, plenty of sleep, fun, exercise, mindfulness, music, relaxation, reading, nature, laughter, space, gratitude – whatever works for you ([Health.govt.nz](https://www.health.govt.nz)).

Supporting learning from home

Online support for distance learning

The Ministry has launched its Learning From Home and Ki Te Ao Mārama websites which provide advice and resources to support parents, whānau and teachers. The websites will help early learning centres, schools and kura to develop online learning plans that they can share with their parents and whānau.

We have set up a Connected Learning Advisory helpdesk to assist leaders, teachers, kaiako and whānau to make full use of the online environments and resources, as they provide for a continuity of learning for their students and tamariki. CORE Education, which runs the helpdesk, will provide this and other online support from 8 am to 5 pm on business days.

- To contact the Helpdesk, call 0800 700 401. To speak with the Helpdesk in te reo Māori, call 0508 294 462
- The Helpdesk numbers are available on <https://learningfromhome.govt.nz/updates/helping-you-distance-learning> and <https://www.kauwhatareo.govt.nz/mi/news-holder/support-with-distance-learning-at-home/>

Support includes:

- **Technical advice** for teachers and whānau in response to their Helpdesk enquiries
- **Online support** to assist:
 - whānau to understand how to use the IT tools they have and how to engage safely in collaborative spaces
 - principals, leadership teams and teachers to select and use appropriate tools and strategies to communicate, maintain learning programmes effectively across their community, and manage online safety
- **Community liaison:** connecting early learning services/school/kura leaders and whānau with networks and resources.

Wellbeing information updated including new tip sheets for families, caregivers and whānau

We have slightly updated the [wellbeing information on our website](#) to better reflect how the COVID-19 response has changed over the last weeks. Included in there are three new tip sheets for parents, caregivers and teachers:

- [Tips for teachers, parents and caregivers – supporting toddlers](#)
- [Tips for teachers, parents and caregivers – supporting children](#)
- [Tips for teachers, parents and caregivers – supporting young people](#)

