

Kia ora koutou

On Wednesday this week, following the announcement by Minister Hipkins that schools will reopen on Tuesday 26 October to students in Y11-13, we sent you an email containing a link to our newsletter ([#7 20 October 2021](#)) explaining this decision and providing you with a fair bit of information regarding the public health advice, additional measures for Y11-13 return, the My Covid Record website and vaccinations. We also mentioned that we would get back to you today, with more up to date information about the reopening of school on Tuesday (for Y11-13 students).

Getting to school on Tuesday 26 October

Our school timetable will begin again for students in Y11-13 at the normal time of 8.45am on Tuesday 26 October. Please arrive at school no later than 8.40am, to make sure you will be in class on time. At this stage, *we plan to only have the Nicholson Ave gate open*. This is to ensure we have a better understanding of numbers on site and to make QR codes more accessible for scanning using the COVID tracer app. Please stay home if you are unwell. Anyone that shows any sign of illness when coming to school will be sent home immediately.

Bus services

Next Tuesday, 26 October school bus services for secondary students will resume, running on a reduced timetable. School bus journeys will be added to the AT Journey Planner on Sunday 24 October, and there is a list available on their [website](#). There are no changes planned to public bus services, but AT will be monitoring passenger numbers to make sure there is enough space onboard and will adjust where needed.

When taking the bus:

- You must wear a face covering when travelling on public transport, or when waiting at a stop or station. This includes anyone aged 12 years or older travelling on school bus services.
- School bus services and public services need to be boarded through the rear door.
- On school bus services physical distancing is not required.

As most of the bus services will stay at a weekend timetable, AT recommend you plan your journey using the Journey Planner or AT Mobile App. To check bus services from Tuesday, click [here](#).

Mandatory (you must) mask wearing

The public health orders require, for alert level 3 areas like ours, that masks are worn inside by everyone. The Ministry of Education has also noted that the expectation is for people to provide their own mask each day. We will have a supply of disposable masks available, but we ask that you bring your own mask, and wear it correctly, whenever you are indoors. Masks are recommended, but not required when outdoors. Please be aware that if you do not comply with the indoor mask rule, you will be sent home.

School lunches

The Pita Pit team will be onsite from Tuesday and will be making lunches for those students who come to school as they did before lockdown. The school canteen will be closed.

Our teaching and learning focus



PAPATOETOE
HIGH SCHOOL

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HIGH SCHOOL

The decision to enable Y11-13 students to return to onsite schooling, will mean that next week, will be very complicated. We have made the decision to focus our teaching and learning on the Y11-13 students and if you have a student in Y9-10 you may notice a slight drop off in work set next week. We will be reviewing this decision daily.

In the classroom

Every classroom will have a supply of hand sanitiser for students to use on entry and departure and desks will be spaced to make certain appropriate distancing is possible. Teachers will ensure their students adhere to the mask wearing rule and window have been checked to ensure they open sufficiently to ventilate the rooms.

Vaccinations

The public health message has been, for some time, that vaccination is a key protection in our fight to control the spread and severity of COVID-19. In 2020 we did not have this tool available to us, but in 2021 we do. If you have yet to make your vaccination decision, or to get your first shot, there is a great deal of information available to you [here](#). You may have heard that we are now required to gather information on the COVID-19 vaccination status of all staff and students, and we will be starting to gather this information from students very soon. Whilst we establish the best way to access this data, to make it as easy as possible for you, we recommend heading to the [My Covid Record](#) website (if you have already received a vaccination shot) to start to create your vaccination certificate in readiness for the pending [COVID-19 Protection Framework](#). As we are yet to establish just what evidence of vaccination is required, we ask that you hold off sending us information until we have some clarity around what document or image will meet the requirements of the public health order.

On Saturday 30th and Sunday 31st October we are hosting a vaccination event in partnership with CMDHB and Whanau Ora. If you are due your first or second vaccinations, why not come down and get it done here amongst friendly faces and a place you know well. It will be drive through, so you won't even need to get out of your car. More details about this event will be released next week.

Finally, the last few months have been extremely challenging, and by the looks of things, the lead into Christmas will also continue to bring challenges to many of us. We are here to help if you need us, so please don't hesitate to make contact if you think there is any way at all that we can be of assistance to you. [Click here](#) for our contacts page.

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