



12th August 2020

Dear Parents and Caregivers

I hope this message finds you and your family well and that you have not been personally affected by the re-emergence of COVID 19.

The Government announced yesterday that as of 12.00pm on Wednesday 12th August, Auckland is returning to Alert Level 3 for a period of three days. This will be reviewed by the Government on Friday evening and I will communicate next steps with you over the weekend.

The aim of alert level 3 is to restrict the transfer of Covid-19 as there have been new cases of infection. Alert level 3 has significant restrictions and the Ministry of Education has sent out very clear guidelines to schools regarding what we must do to be open for students.

The key message for parents is that if you can, you need to keep your child at home. Only students that cannot be supervised at home (as their parents are working and there is no other option for childcare) can attend school. It is not open for students who WANT to return to school when their parents or a caregiver is at home. If parents are at home, your child must be at home. Any student who has an underlying health issue that puts them at risk of severe illness must also remain at home. Any student who is unwell must stay at home.

**To keep everyone safe (students, staff and families) the best place for students is at home.** However if students need to attend school, it will not be business as usual. There are many restrictions and rules set by the Ministry of Health and Ministry of Education. In simple terms:

- Students who attend the school will be supervised (not necessarily by their own teacher), but they will be continuing with their Distance Learning programmes set by their classroom teacher.
- Students will need to bring a device as many school devices have been sent home to other students.
- Physical distancing will be maintained, along with strict hygiene requirements and regular hand washing.
- Students will be kept in small bubbles of no more than 10 students, and staff will maintain a record of contacts in each bubble. These bubbles will not necessarily include friends as classes will need to be mixed up.
- Break times will be supervised and students will remain in their bubbles.
- There will be NO mixing of bubbles at school under any circumstances.
- There will be NO access to the playground, sports equipment or bike track.
- There will be no specialist classes at school.
- Students should arrive at school each day at 9am and will return home at 3.00pm each day.
- The school site will be closed to all visitors during the school day.
- The school office will be open to accept calls and emails. No visitors will be permitted at school.

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If you are an essential worker who is unable to work from home please email Leanne Somerville Smith [ismith@glenfieldint.school.nz](mailto:ismith@glenfieldint.school.nz) if you need to send your children to school. As we have staff that need to be at home for their families or due to health conditions, we need to make sure we have enough teachers on site to supervise the students.

COVID continues to be a challenge for us all but I am confident that we will get through this together.

Take care and stay safe.

Ngā mihi

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read 'Mark Whitford', written over a faint, large, light-colored oval shape.

Mark Whitford  
**Principal**