

12 October 2021

Kia ora koutou



We hope this message finds you and your whanau well, and enjoying some family time during the holidays.

The government has kept with their cautious approach when responding to COVID-19, and as a result, we will stay at Alert Level 3 for a bit longer. A reminder that at Alert Level 3 you legally must stay within your household bubble unless for essential personal movement, including going to work and going to school.

This means that while all Auckland schools will start Term 4 on Monday 18th October, it will not be the usual start to a term. All teachers will be teaching their classes through our distance learning programme, as the majority of students will remain at home.

Attendance at Level 3 - PLEASE READ CAREFULLY

While we know how difficult it is trying to work from home as well as support your child's learning, please keep your child at home if there is an appropriate carer available. Please remember schools are essentially closed at Alert Level 3 with the exception of those few children whose parents and carers must return to work, and there is no appropriate caregiver at home. We are aware this is not possible for all families as we had a small number of students onsite for Level 3 at the end of last term.

NB ONLY COMPLETE THIS SURVEY IF YOU NEED TO SEND YOUR CHILD TO SCHOOL.

[Attendance Survey Term 4 2021 COVID19](#) **PLEASE COMPLETE THIS BY THURSDAY 14th October.**

If you would prefer to email please send the following details to Mrs Somerville Smith (Deputy principal) via email: ismith@glenfieldint.school.nz :

- Student's name & class, parent contact name and phone contact
- I will be keeping my child home **OR**
- I need to send my child to school as no one is at home to care for them
- If your child must attend school, please indicate who the designated caregiver is that will be dropping them off and collecting them from school

Once the Alert Level 3 School Attendance register is in place, more specific instructions will be emailed to families that have a student registered.

Vaccination Status

All staff members who work in schools and kura and workers who may have contact with children and students will be required to have a first dose of the COVID-19 vaccine by 15 November 2021 and be fully vaccinated by 1 January 2022.

As well as that, it is now legally required that we hold a COVID-19 vaccination register for all **eligible students and staff**. We will therefore need to know if your child has had their first or second vaccine dose or is exempted from being vaccinated. This information will be held by us in accordance with the Privacy Act and will only be shared with public health authorities. We are therefore getting our data collection system in place and the office team will get in touch with you again very soon.

The key reason for collecting this vaccination information is it would be used if a case of COVID-19 was detected in our school. Public health authorities would need to know if we are a school with a high vaccination rate. This information would then be used as part of the local health authority's risk assessment. The more highly vaccinated we are (staff and eligible students), the less likely it will be that we will have to close down for a long period of time, or we might not need to close at all.

We are proud of how our community has responded to this outbreak, but the mahi isn't yet done. Please continue to follow all the alert level requirements including staying at home and getting tested for COVID-19 if you are feeling unwell. We have included some [information about vaccinations](#) to support your decision making process.

These are the very best things we can do to keep our community as safe as possible and get everyone back to school as soon as possible.

As usual, please do not hesitate to contact us if you have any questions.

Take care and stay safe.

Ngā mihi

Mark Whitford
Principal

Leanne Somerville Smith
Deputy Principal

Sarah Stevenson
Assistant Principal

Important Support Information for your Well being

We know these are challenging times for everyone. If you need some support, here are some agencies that can help if required:

Helplines that are available 24 hours a day, seven days a week:

- *Mental Health Crisis: 0800 800 717*
- *Lifeline for counselling and support: 0800 543 354 or 0800 LIFELINE*
- *Samaritans for confidential support for anyone who is lonely or in emotional distress: 0800 726 666*
- *Depression Helpline to talk to a trained counsellor about how you are feeling or to ask any questions: 0800 111 757 or free text 4206*
- *Healthline for advice from trained registered nurses: 0800 611 116*
- *Suicide Prevention Helpline: 0508 828 865*
- *Counselling Free Call or Text 1737.*

Also available:

- *Family Services 211 Helpline for help finding and direct transfer to community-based health and social support services in your area: 0800 211 211*
- [Family Services Directory online](#)
- [Unite Against COVID-19: Family and sexual violence prevention](#) for help and support if you're experiencing family violence or sexual violence.