

Coatesville School Newsletter

“Aim! Strive! Achieve!”

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Dear Parents/Caregivers

Tēnā koutou, tēnā koutou, tēnā koutou katoa



Dear Parents/Caregivers

I hope you have all had a successful week. Success can occur in many forms so I hope you and your children are able to find some positives this week, as this period of lockdown gets closer to a full 4 weeks for all of us.

I'm not sure about you but ... I am hopeful of a move to Alert Level 3 next week! The lockdown has been successful in breaking chains of transmission and there is optimism that by the time the decision is made on Monday there is enough evidence to safely support a move to Alert Level 3. If not, I hope any further delay is short.

It will be good to better understand the timeframes we have for Alert Levels 3 & 4 early next week and the impact for 'Distance Learning' programmes.

Everyone is doing their best to support learning during this time but, as with everything, as time goes on it may be harder to maintain. So as soon as it is safe enough for us to reopen the school, and have everyone back at Alert Level 2, we will resume face to face learning. There may not be much time at all back at school this term but we will use the time we have to ensure we finish this term and start planning for next term as effectively as possible. In the meantime, thank you all once again for doing all you are doing - staff, parents/caregivers and students.

Message from the Board of Trustees

Dear Parents and Caregivers

We hope this finds you and your families well in lockdown.

As a Board, we are working closely with our Principal to ensure everything is in place to support our students, their families, our staff and distance learning. We receive regular updates and information from the Ministry of Education. We are monitoring advice on what the different alert levels might look like for school with the delta variant. As soon as we receive confirmation of any move in Alert Levels for Auckland, our Principal will share with you what that means for Coatesville School.

Thank you for all you have done to support students and staff with distance learning. We know our staff are working really hard to provide students with meaningful distance learning. A number of you have expressed your gratitude to staff and provided constructive feedback. Thank you.

Please remember, if you have any questions or concerns, you can check in with your child's teacher in the first instance, or team leaders.

Thank you for your ongoing support.

Coatesville School Board of Trustees

Reopening at Alert Level 3: Date to be confirmed

What does Alert Level 3 look like for schools?

Alert Level 3 for schools is the same as Level 4 for the majority of families. It will predominantly replicate previous Alert Level 3 situations (such as earlier this year).

But at Level 3 it does get us closer to Alert Level 2 - when all students, staff and parents are able to come back to school, although there are a number of onsite restrictions (which will be shared closer to the time).

NEED to send your child to school at Alert Level 3?

We have all worked so hard to try and eliminate COVID-19.

This commitment, however, must continue at Alert Level 3, as we aim to achieve a successful COVID-19 free outcome for NZ.

The Government and Ministry of Education have been very clear with their messages around those children who should attend school. **Alert Level 3 is not for the majority of children to return to school.**

It is **specifically for children who NEED to be at school only**. ie. parents/caregivers are unable to work from home and are unable to organise any childcare options.

Every child who is learning from home supports the school to work with reduced student numbers and supports the safety of all those students/staff members onsite. It will also support the online learning programmes for everyone.

Learning at home and at school will be the same at Alert Level 3

Students at home will continue to receive online learning with the guidance of their teacher.

Students who need to attend school will continue to receive online learning with the guidance of their teacher.

ie. **students will be receiving the same learning programmes whether they are at home or need to attend school.** Students who attend school will not get a different programme.

Teachers working at school will support students in their own class working online at home or at school so will not be available to support the learning of students in their 'bubble' (as bubbles will include siblings so will not be class-based).

Teachers who end up working from home will support students in their own class working online at home or at school.

What are the onsite expectations at school in Alert Level 3?

Staff onsite will definitely do their best to ensure the best environment possible for students attending school.

However, as you see, we will be working under a large number of restrictions, which have been imposed upon us working within Alert Level 3.

School Organisation:

- School buses will not operate under Alert Level 3
- Parents will need to drop off and pick up
- School will be open for students from 8.30 am. 'Distance Learning' class begin at 9am
- Drop off of students in different bubbles may be staggered (ie. arrive at different times)
- Parents will be able to walk their child/children to their learning space but may not enter the space and will not be able to speak to the teacher
- School will end for students at 3pm. Students will need to be collected promptly
- Parents will be able to collect their child/children from their learning space but may not enter the space and will not be able to speak to the teacher
- Parents must fulfil physical distancing expectations while onsite and must exit the school grounds promptly
- The school office will not be open to parents or students
- Any virus symptoms of students must be reported to the school
- If staff have concerns over the health of a student they will be required to be picked up asap
- Communication with staff must be completed using the phone or preferably via email
- Attendance records will be kept to ensure contact tracing if required

Classroom Organisation

- Students will be in a strict bubble of no more than 10 students
- Siblings will be kept in the same bubble
- There will be no mixing within and between bubbles
- Physical distancing (1m) will apply during class time
- Surfaces will be disinfected daily
- Safe hygiene practices will be reinforced and maintained
- Hand sanitiser will be used upon entering classrooms

Playground Organisation

- Physical distancing (2m) will apply during break times
- There will be no mixing within and between bubbles
- Students will not share learning or sporting equipment
- School playground equipment will be out of bounds

Ag Day - Saturday 30th October

Well done - **245** students have registered their Ag Day project with only **38 students to go**

Register NOW

Ag Day is a school day and every student is expected to register **ONE PROJECT** - an animal, a plant or a rural tradition project. Please read the [2021 Ag Day handbook](#) for more information.

Ag Day and Alert Levels

Ag Day will continue as normal at Alert Level 1. Let us hope we are well in Level 1 then!

At Alert Level 2 Ag Day will not be able to proceed as planned as we cannot be open to the public or allow large gatherings. But the day may be modified and completed during a school day.

If we are at Alert Level 3 or 4 on or close to Ag Day, it will be cancelled for the year.

Parents/caregivers will receive communication regarding any decision.

Ag Day Artwork Competition 2021 - an activity for the kids!

Every year we run a competition for students to **create a design for our Ag Day t-shirts, posters and cards.**

This is open to all children.

The entry form: [Ag Day Artwork Competition 2021](#)

With us currently at Alert Level 4 you will have to print a form out. Or simply use a blank A4 piece of paper.

The most successful entries are the simpler ones. The design does not require lots of intricate detail - in fact this is often difficult to reproduce. Designs should be simple, bold and capture the essence of Ag Day!

Entries are to be completed by **Friday 17 September** - extended to allow as many children as possible to enter!

If your child has completed an entry please await further instructions on how to best share their wonderful work.

I am hopeful of getting entries handed in at school at Level 2. If we can't then we will collect them in another manner. Watch this space! Thank you.

2022 - Out Of Zone Enrolments

Our annual out of zone ballot process has begun for enrollment in 2022. The number of places has not yet been determined but applications at all year levels are invited. Important dates

- ballot closes **Wednesday 29th September**
- Ballot drawn **Wednesday 20th October.**

Please email the school office. office@coatesvilleschool.nz if you need a ballot form.

Take care. And if there is anything we can do to help with learning or life please make contact with myself, Team Leaders or teachers. We are here to help in any way we can.

Ka kite ano. Hei konā mai.

Richard Johnson

Richard Johnson – Principal

Community Notices