

COVID-19 Distance Learning

ALERT LEVEL 2 @ TAI



Tuesday 12 May 2020

Dear Parents/whanau of Te Atatu Intermediate.

Nga manaakitanga ki runga i a koutou.

On Monday, as you would be aware, the Government decided that we will move into **Alert Level 2 on Thursday 14 May**. Schools would be requested to start from the next full week. This will allow for seven full weeks left of term 2. This means we will be;

Open to receive all students back to TAI from Monday 18 May at 8.55am

We hope that many of our students return back to school on this day, however, we do understand that for some students, due to health or other reasons, they may not initially be returning on the 18th. If this is the case, could you please let your child's teacher know. Although teachers will not be specifically planning distance learning, there will be Google classroom work that will be available for the students to continue.

This will mean that on Thursday 14 / Friday 15 May, teachers and support staff will be in at school preparing for the re-start as such of the school year. Therefore, **they will not be available for Google Meetings/ student inquiries with the class** - however, there will still be plenty of work that the students can continue with. Our expectation is that students will still be distance learning on Thursday and Friday.

*The Ministry of Education has stated that students who were in school during Level 3 are still entitled to come on these days, however, we will be **unable to take any further students on Thursday 14th and Friday 15th May.***

There will be a number of factors that we will be focusing on as a staff, such as health and safety, wellbeing of students, curriculum return from distance learning and the re-establishment of routines and expectations. It will be like starting the year again after the summer break, and we will have to re-set where we left off and focus on where to go next for all students, which is crucial as we get school routines back.

Parents, it may pay to gradually start adjusting routines at home to mirror school day schedules i.e., earlier wake-up / going to bed times etc. You could also discuss any

uncertainties your child may have about returning to school, seeing their peers or teacher again after such a long break to help prepare for their return.

Also, if you received one of the school chromebook/charger, could these please be returned to school to Mr Andrews on Monday, as these came from the classes and will be needed to continue our in school learning.

Some key points for operating at Level 2 at TAI:

- Health and safety procedures will be set in place, parents please do not send your child to school if they are unwell. If for any reason parents need to come to school, all parents must sign in at the office. We need to keep track of all people on site, so would encourage parents to not come into the school grounds.
- All students require a drink bottle filled with water each day. Drinking fountains/ taps will only be used for filling water bottles only. Pita Pit is available for ordering every Monday through EZ Lunch as per normal. At this stage, our tuck shop may not be able to be back. We will update you on this once we know more.
- Physical distancing is still in place, students must be outside of another persons 'Moist Breath Zone' as the Ministry have phrased it.
- Washing of hands is paramount and will be encouraged regularly. Sanitiser bottles and disinfectant will be available in each classroom. Our cleaning company Crest Clean, does thorough cleaning each day of the whole school, which does get spot checked by the company. We are going with the Ministry of Health's / Dr Bloomfield's advice that masks and gloves are not required.
- School will be starting each day at 8.55am in class - due to no large gatherings, we will not be doing assembly, fitness rotations or singing from 8.40.
- We will stagger the dismissal times at the end of the day to avoid all students leaving at once. This will be from 2.50 /2.55 / 3pm with different syndicates daily.

Hopefully, this is the first step towards a full return to normal life. I would like to take this opportunity to firstly thank all you parents for your support during this time, I know that there are a lot of pressures faced and we appreciate how you have got your children into their distance learning. I would also like to thank my hard working staff for all they have done under circumstances that we've never faced before.

We look forward to seeing your children back next week!

Nga mihi

Lloyd Evans

**Principal/Tumuaki
Te Atatu Intermediate**