

Thursday 11<sup>th</sup> November 2021



Te Atatū  
INTERMEDIATE SCHOOL

## COVID level 3 lockdown (Newsletter #13 –Term 4 – Week 4)

### Tēnā koutou katoa o whanau o Te Atatū Intermediate.

It was finally good to get some confirmation of a return to school announced yesterday to re-commence on **Wednesday 17<sup>th</sup> November**.

Obviously, an announcement such as this brings on a whole other range of emotions for parents, students and staff from excitement at coming back to school through to anxiety about what this will mean. In our preparation for this return, I have met via Zoom with the local Te Atatū Principals in our cluster, including our three contributing Primary schools to discuss what the return will look like for schooling at each of their schools. We are also planning with the latest information from the Ministry to make sure that we have all systems, especially health protocols and safety at the forefront of our return.

As part of making sure that schools are as safe as possible for a return, and following Ministry of Education guidelines – **we cannot have all students on site at the same time.**

For the vaccine, the current age is 12 years and up – we still have a percentage of our Year 7 students who are still 11 years old and therefore cannot receive the vaccine. With this in mind, what we believe will be the best system to make sure our students and staff remain as safe as possible and within Public Health protocols, **will be an alternate year group programme for the return to school from next Wednesday.**

What this means is that **Year 7 students only will start back next Wednesday 17<sup>th</sup> November, followed by Year 8 students only on Thursday 18<sup>th</sup> November** and so on in alternate days. Therefore classed as a part time return. Siblings may attend on the same day and join their class, even though the year group may be different, however, can only attend one of the two designated days and must remain consistent.

This will enable us to have smaller, half classes to enable the social distancing required **within** class and fewer students on the grounds at break times for the 2m distancing required. Each class year group will stay together as a group and work with the class teacher predominantly. Teachers will focus on core subjects such as numeracy, literacy, social studies and develop the theme for our term of **ROUTINE** and **RECONNECT**.

The alternate day that students will not be at school – the online learning will continue. **The focus for teachers however, will switch from online to in school learning.** Therefore, all students who have received a school chrome-book – will still have access to the chrome-book to complete alternate day work via Google Class.

Students who have been in 'bubble school' during the Level 3 period are still able to attend daily. **For all students, could you please let us know [here](#) whether your child will return to school on the alternate day system for the remainder of the term.**

***Please note - As part of health protocols, All returning staff on site will have had to have had a negative Covid test and have shown proof of vaccination status as per the government mandate for education workers.***

The following table outlines the days each year group will therefore be **at school**.

	<b>MONDAY</b>	<b>TUESDAY</b>	<b>WEDNESDAY</b>	<b>THURSDAY</b>	<b>FRIDAY</b>
<b>WEEK 5 15-19 NOV</b>	Online learning only	Online learning only	Year 7 only	Year 8 only	Year 7 only
<b>WEEK 6 22-26 NOV</b>	Year 8 only	Year 7 only	Year 8 only	Year 7 only	Year 8 only
<b>WEEK 7 29 NOV – 3 DEC</b>	Year 7 only	Year 8 only	Year 7 only	Year 8 only	Year 7 only
<b>WEEK 8 6 –10 DEC</b>	Year 8 only	Year 7 only	Year 8 only	Year 7 only	Year 8 only
<b>WEEK 9 13 –15 DEC</b>	Year 7 only	Year 8 last day for 2021	Year 7s last day for 2021		

The return to school also means that students from Year 4 upwards must wear a mask. Students will need to bring a mask from home – we have ordered extra masks in case, but will not be able to supply daily masks to students. Students will also need to bring a lunch and drink bottle of water as the tuck shop will not be operating.

Therefore, although we are back at school – its school, but not as we know it. Next week I will include what the specifics of our learning programme is being based around – we will be continuing our thematic teaching programme begun, and continuing the overview for the term we have always had, but now we can teach students kanohi te kanohi which we all prefer.

I look forward to seeing the students back at school next week, albeit across the different days. After exactly three months away – it will be nice to see them back onsite.

Finally, on a different note, the day we went into lockdown in August, the public health nurses were set to come for student vaccinations around Boostrix, HPV2 and MMR. Please see the attached flyer as they will be set up in our school hall, using full safety precautions on **Tuesday 16<sup>th</sup> November** from 8.30am -3.30pm. Covid vaccinations will also be available.

Until next week, have a fantastic Friday and a relaxing weekend.

**Ngā mihi nui ki a koutou katoa, noho haumarū.**

**Lloyd Evans  
Principal / Tumuaki  
Te Atatū Intermediate School**

# School-based Immunisation Event

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**16TH NOVEMBER 2021**

**8.30 AM—3.30 PM**

- ◆ **Boostrix (if eligible)**
- ◆ **HPV2 (if eligible)**
- ◆ **MMR (if eligible)**
  
- ◆ **Any whānau member can access free Covid-19 if aged 12 and above**

◆

**Vaccinations in the school hall with controlled numbers**

**There will be availability to vaccinate other children for Boostrix, HPV2 or MMR if eligible**

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