



COVID-19 Update

Kia Ora Te Whanau

16th March 2020

The Prime Minister's recent announcements were welcomed by many and we hope that it will help to slow down the impact of COVID-19. As a school we are working on providing information to parents on a range of current issues as well putting plans in place for future developments as they occur.

We continue to be advised by the Ministry of Health and the Ministry of Education and for more specific information please visit their websites.

<https://www.health.govt.nz/our-work/diseases-and-conditions/novel-coronavirus-2019-ncov>

Communication

If you have any queries about COVID-19 and the school please contact:

- Principal - Brian Field (brian.field@bethlehemschool.ac.nz)
- Deputy Principal - Mike Hansen (mike.hansen@bethlehemschool.ac.nz)
- Assistant Principal - Megan Marshall (megan.marshall@bethlehemschool.ac.nz)

On (07) 576 4726. We will still be sending out information through our usual communication mediums of emails, Facebook, newsletter or the school website.

Prevention

The Ministry of Health recommends the following guidelines to protect yourself and others from the virus spreading:

- Cough or sneeze into your elbow or by covering your mouth and nose with tissues
- Put used tissues in the bin or a bag immediately
- Wash your hands with soap and water often (for at least 20 seconds)
- Try to avoid close contact with people who are unwell
- Don't touch your eyes, nose or mouth if your hands are not clean
- Avoid personal contact, such as kissing, sharing cups or food with sick people
- Clean and disinfect frequently touched surfaces and objects, such as doorknobs
- Stay home if you feel unwell

Call Healthline on 0800 358 5453 if you have any symptoms or have been in close contact with someone confirmed with COVID-19.

There are number of measures that are in place to ensure that our children are able to apply healthy hygiene practices. Mr D will be monitoring supplies of liquid soap, paper towels and hand sanitisers to ensure these are replenished. Special sanitisers for wiping down classroom surfaces will also be made available for staff to use during the day.

Self Isolation

There have been a number of queries about self isolation and in a school situation we would ask that self isolation be done as a household rather than as individuals.

Please contact our principals listed above if you have any question regarding self isolation.

Learning in the Event of a School Closure

Part of our planning preparation is to look at ways in which our students will be able to continue their learning should our school be closed for a period of time. The MOE have requested information which has been included in a survey sent out tonight. We would really appreciate your prompt response to this short survey as it will help to guide us in how to address this issue.

Regards

Brian Field

Principal