



Bethlehem School (est. 1883)

66 Carmichael Road
Bethlehem
Tauranga

Phone (07) 576 4726
www.bethlehemschool.ac.nz

Tēnā koutou e te whānau,

I hope that your tamariki have enjoyed their week with our Home Ako Programme. It was also a genuine pleasure to meet those of you who joined me for one of our two community Zoom sessions this past Wednesday.

With the move to Alert Level 3 from 11.59pm on Tuesday 31 August, schools are permitted to open solely for the instruction for those children whose parents/caregivers are unable to be home with their children or cannot make other arrangements for their children during the school day. For children who do have an adult at home or can be supervised as part of an extended bubble, they are to continue learning from home during Level 3. As we are asking staff to travel and leave their own bubbles to come into school, it is essential that **only those children who are unable to have an adult supervising them during school hours should come to school.**

Students who are onsite during Level 3 will continue to use the Home Ako programme set by their own class teacher and our onsite bubble staff will be there to support them when necessary. There will not be a separate learning programme provided at school.

Please note that the school grounds will still be off-limits for any students who are not at school for Level 3 and the school grounds are closed to everyone in the community after school hours.

If your child will be at home during Level 3, they will continue with our Home Ako Programme. There is no change to their schedule or programme. However, you may notice another teacher from within your child's team commenting on their work online. This will be because your child's teacher is one of our bubble teachers and their team members are collegially supporting them online. Your child's teacher will provide them with a new work plan for the coming week on Monday morning. If you have any questions about this, please liaise with your child's teacher directly.

The next section of this notice is for parents who are unable to have an adult at home with their child/ren during the school day and cannot make other arrangements for their child/ren during Alert Level 3. Further information regarding Alert Level 3 may become available and we will keep you informed.

If you require your child to be at school for Level 3:

If your child has no adult supervision available to them in Level 3 and they must return to school, please complete the Level 3-Student Registration Form [HERE](#) by **Sunday 29 August at 7pm**. This deadline is final and no late requests can be accepted as extensive preparation is required in order to create safe spaces for staff and students during Level 3. If you cannot access the Level 3-Student Registration Form at the above link, please contact our Deputy Principal, Jacqui van der Beek via email jacqui.vanderbeek@bethlehemschool.ac.nz

Please be aware that the school protocols for Level 3 are very specific and must be maintained at all times. All students who are onsite during Level 3 will follow the process below:

LEVEL 3: PROTOCOLS FOR RETURNING TO BETHLEHEM SCHOOL

All adults and children must follow these protocols at all times during Alert Level 3

Students should only attend school at Level 3 if there is no adult to look after your child/ren during school hours and you cannot make other arrangements during the school day. This letter explains the protocols that both you and your child/ren will be required to follow on their return to school on Wednesday morning, as we are working very hard to keep both our staff and students safe at all times. Please read them carefully.

Each Bubble Class will have three staff allocated to allow for supervision of children and staff breaks throughout the day. Please be aware that this may not be your child's teacher and may not be their usual classroom. Please prepare your child for this possibility.

Before leaving home (all children must be escorted to school by an adult)

- Check that your child is completely healthy. If not, please keep them at home. Any unwell students will be required to be collected immediately if they fall ill during the school day.
- Have your child/ren dressed in their school uniform.
- Check the time and the location you are required to meet their bubble teacher. This will be sent in a separate email.
- Please leave home with your child so that you arrive at the allocated arrival time. This is to prevent interactions with other students and parents/caregivers from other bubbles (*Children should not be arriving at school on their own and should have an adult with them to ensure that they are not breaking their bubbles on the way to or from school*).

Arriving at school

- A teacher will meet you at your bubble meeting place. Please wear your face mask and stay at least 2 metres away from other parents and children. Please prepare your child not to interact with other children.
- Teachers will take their bubble group to the learning space that they will be working in.
- Adults cannot access the school grounds at any time.

At school - in the classroom

- The teacher will take your child to their designated bubble classroom.
- No parents will be allowed to visit classrooms or school office.
- Contact is by phone with Jacqui van der Beek (Deputy Principal) via phone on 021 244 2032.
- There will be hand sanitiser at the entry to all classrooms and in bathrooms.

- Children have been allocated a single table and chair with their name on it. They will sit at this table and chair each day that they attend. All children will be facing the same way to reduce the possibility of transmission. They will not be allowed to change or share furniture or equipment.
- Each child will be allocated a school device, 1 book and a pencil for their exclusive use during Level 3. Each of these will be named and wiped down each day. These items can not be shared.
- Please provide your child with a set of headphones/earbuds. They will stay at school each day.
- We will be reminding children about safe coughing and sneezing etiquette.
- Children cannot play with one another at any stage.
- Children will be reminded not to touch their faces.

At school - break times

- All children will have three short breaks across the day. They will be allowed to eat during these breaks.
- All food rubbish must be taken home.
- All children must bring their own lunch and a drink bottle filled with water. Please make sure all packets in children's lunches can be independently opened without adult assistance. Drinking fountains are not to be used.
- Food and drink can not be shared. No food can be provided by staff for children.
- The playgrounds and sandpits are all out of bounds.
- Each bubble will have an allocated area of the school and will not be in this area at the same time as another bubble.

At school - learning

- Children will be working on the learning programme set by their classroom teachers and accessed by Seesaw or Google Classroom as per the Home Ako Learning Programme.

At school - using the toilet

- All bubbles will have an allocated toilet that they all use.
- All children will be supervised when they go to the toilet. Privacy will be respected.
- Children will be monitored with handwashing.

At school - end of the day

- Your child's bubble group will depart school (at the same spot as they were dropped off) at 2.45pm or 3:00pm
- PLEASE ENSURE THAT YOU ARE ON TIME TO PICK UP YOUR CHILD. Children can not walk home independently as we can not guarantee they are maintaining distance and not breaking their bubbles.

If your child is unwell

- If your child has any sign of being unwell before you come to school, they are required to remain at home. Please phone Jacqui van der Beek on 021 244 2032 to let us know that they will not be coming.
- *Teachers will monitor children arriving and if they notice any sign of a child being unwell, the child will not be able to attend school for the day.
- If your child develops any sign of being unwell while at school, you will be phoned to pick your child up immediately. The staff member will arrange for pick up at your specified entrance.
- Each bubble will have basic first aid supplies to use in the classroom. (i.e. plasters)

If your child is not attending everyday

- Please give us at least 24 hours notice if your child will not be attending. This allows us to manage staffing. Email Jacqui van der Beek (Deputy Principal) jacqui.vanderbeek@bethlehemschool.ac.nz if there are any changes to your plans.

If you are unable to have an adult home for supervision of your child at Level 3 or are unable to make other arrangements for childcare and you agree with these protocols, please complete this Level 3-Student Registration Form by **Sunday 29 August at 7pm.**

https://docs.google.com/forms/d/1eKluAcdUu2z-01v_QfOxOycc4aQDN4r-5Kuv9svlx00/edit

We acknowledge that this can be an unsettling transition with returning to school or continuing with learning from home. Our Bethlehem team will continue to ensure that all tamariki are supported and celebrated as we move through this next chapter together.

Stay safe and well.

Ngā mihi nui

Catherine Neidhardt
Principal - Tumuaki