

20 April 2020

Dear Parents/Whanau

### COVID-19: Preparation for Transition to Alert Level 3

Today our Prime Minister announced that as a nation we will move into Alert Level 3 on Tuesday 28 April 2020. This is a positive announcement that recognises the significant efforts of all New Zealanders over the last four weeks. As a school we appreciate the extensive efforts you have made to ensure this positive shift.

Within the announcement the Prime Minister detailed that schools will prepare for identified students onsite from Wednesday 29 April. As a school we respect the role we play in supporting your return to the workplace (if required) and as such will spend the next week cleaning/preparing the school site for re-entry as well as ensuring we have necessary personnel to meet the requirements of Level 3 learning and teaching.

The key messages delivered by the Prime Minister and supported by the Ministry of Health and Education include:

- Alert Level 3 continues to mean: where possible work and learn from home
- Parents/caregivers should only physically send children to school if they need to - this means there is no other option available within your bubble
- If your child has a health condition and they are at risk of severe illness you must keep them at home
- Any unwell children must remain at home and if a member of your household is unwell please keep your children at home

In order to ensure the safety of children and staff who will work/learn onsite, we will be implementing strict enforcement of health and safety measures which will be communicated directly with those families who are in attendance. These measures are designed to ensure we can track and trace contacts and manage the well-being of all.

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**Empowered to learn  
Empowered for life**

I wish to assure you that regardless of the medium we continue to support your child's learning; distance (via digital platform) or onsite in a face to face setting. Until we reopen on Wednesday 29 April, your child's learning continues to be supported via the learning hub websites; and at this point I would like to highlight how proud I am of our learning team as they act responsively and creatively to the challenge of learning in this new way. Again, these learning sites can be accessed directly from our school website: [www.taumata.school.nz](http://www.taumata.school.nz) .

In the next 24 hours we will share a google form where families can indicate whether they will require onsite/face-to face learning for child(ren). We remind you that this option is only for families who have no other option - the key message is where possible work and learn from home. We ask that you complete this form by Thursday 23 April so that we can ensure we have appropriate staffing and make necessary changes within the physical spaces.

As always we thank you for your ongoing support and commitment to learning. We appreciate that these are challenging circumstances where families are inundated with information; adjusting to changing goals and situations and adhering to the national request to restrict contact and maintain safe practices. We admire the commitment of our community as we work together to ensure that we can maintain a safe and viable nation for all.

Should you have any queries or questions please do not hesitate to email me on [genfuller@taumata.school.nz](mailto:genfuller@taumata.school.nz)

Kind regards

Genavier Fuller

Principal

On behalf of the Taumata School Board of Trustees