

April 22nd 2020

Dear Parkland Parents/Kia ora koutou,

We know from the individual feedback provided to teachers last week and the examples of work and interactions we are seeing on Seesaw & Google Docs that the vast majority of families are coping well with the current Level 4 restrictions. Thankyou for all your feedback.



On Monday the Government announced that the country will move into Alert Level 3 on April 28th. This means that schools will open partially from Wednesday April 29th 2020.

In order to ensure the safety of those few children that do attend, as well as our staff, we will be operating with strict enforcement of health and safety measures.

There are some key messages around that partial opening that everyone needs to be very clear about.

“STAY HOME - WORK AND LEARN FROM HOME IF YOU CAN”

- “Education Minister Chris Hipkins said under Level three, most children would be expected to continue with distance learning.
- Schools would be open only for students who needed to be there. Other students should all stay home.”
- If you are working from home or are not working and are at home **THEN** you **should keep your children at home.**
- The partial opening is to cater for the children of **essential workers** who are unable to organise ongoing supervision of their children by their own or their extended family members.
- During the two days we remained open before the lockdown began we had only 2-3 children at school. Next week should be about the same level.
- We understand that it has been a long four weeks but unless you meet the criteria you cannot send your child to school to be supervised by teachers.
- If your child has a health condition that means they are at greater risk of a severe illness you **MUST** keep them at home.
- If your child is **sick** in any way at all please keep them at home.
- Teachers will be organised to supervise those children who attend so they can work individually on their online learning programme in groups of 10.
- There will not be normal class teaching programmes.
- Your child may not be with their usual own room teacher. They will be working in small ‘bubbles’ of no more than 10 students and there may be more than one bubble in a working space.
- For those children at home, teachers will continue to support their home learning programme.
- Remember - sending your child to school is a last resort. They will have more flexibility and a wider range of things to do if they remain at home.

If you believe that your child meets the Government criteria to enable them to be supervised at school you are invited to email me directly (principal@parkland.school.nz) and provide their Name & Room Number plus a brief description of your personal circumstance that means you have a justified need to have your children at school during Alert Level 3. (ie: That you are an essential worker or have no means to supervise your own children.)

DEADLINE: We need to be able to work out how we will operate at school. To do that we need to know the exact numbers as early as possible.

The deadline for parents to advise me of children's names is FRIDAY at MIDDAY- April 24th

We will confirm with parents that their child has been added to our Alert Level 3 School Roll. (We are required to keep a separate roll and a register of all people the bubbles of children come into contact with for possible contact tracing.)

If children turn up on Wednesday April 29th without being listed on our Alert Level 3 Roll they will not be permitted to enter the school.

The school is currently being cleaned and prepared for those few children who will be involved.

Peter Barnett
Principal