



Pukeatua Primary School

31<sup>st</sup> January 2022

Kia ora tatou

Nau mai, haere mai ki te kura o Pukeatua Primary School.

**Covid 19 – Health and Safety measures that we have in place, now that we are at Red Light setting.**

**As you all know we are now in the Red Light setting for COVID Protection framework [ CPF]  
Schools will remain open at all traffic light settings.**

**See the guidance table for Red setting**

**Health Measures**

- All our team at Pukeatua are fully vaccinated.
- Face coverings are required for all children Year 4 and upwards when indoors or in close contact with each other. Teachers and staff must also wear face coverings for classes Year 4 and up.  
[ Public health advice is that an appropriate face covering will fit snugly and seal well around facial contours.]
- **Please ensure your Year 4-8 child has an appropriate mask [ Named ] to bring to school each day, taking it home again to ensure a fresh mask is brought to school each day.  
We encourage you to teach them to wear it correctly and make them wear it before the start of school so they feel confident and wear it correctly.**
- We encourage good hygiene practices, including regular hand washing / sanitising [ sanitiser is supplied in all classrooms], cough and sneeze etiquette.
- Cleaners will regularly clean high touch surfaces.
- Staff will ensure windows and doors are adjusted where possible to improve ventilation.
- We ask that students and staff stay home if sick and get tested if displaying any Covid symptoms. Please update school of your situation immediately as it is essential we are informed of any confirmed cases. Do this by calling the school Office.[04 939-8356]
- If Children display any symptoms or become unwell while at school, we will ensure they are masked immediately and caregivers will be contacted and asked to take them home and get tested.

## **Omicron and Testing**

We have all seen the huge amount of cases overseas, and we will likely see larger case numbers in Aotearoa than we have previously experience in the last two years. While Omicron is more transmissible than previous strains, most people who get COVID – 19 will have mild to moderate illness and fully recover in their own homes.

However, some immune – compromised communities are vulnerable, even when fully vaccinated. Therefore, we all need to do our part to stop the spread of the virus.

## **There are additional measures that we will take while in the Red Light setting:**

- We are not holding whole school hui or gatherings or School assemblies
- We encourage parents / caregivers if possible to say good bye at the top of our school driveway and pick up from the top of the school driveway, not coming into the school grounds.
- Please do not use our driveway as a park or drop off / pick up place.
- If your child is needing your support or is starting school you can come in to the school but please ensure you are masked, use the Covid tracing app, santise and sign in at the School Office ensuring you stick to the 2 metre distancing. A staff member will be standing at the top of the Driveway daily to support those children who need it.
- Please stay off the decks and out of the classrooms if you need to drop your child at their class. We appreciate this may be very difficult for children starting school so please keep in contact with your child's teacher regarding this.
- Playgrounds will be closed after school to encourage all to quickly make their way out of the grounds, it is very important all children are picked up on time.
- Parent and Caregiver meetings planned for week.

## **Managing cases in our school**

The Ministry of Health or the Ministry of Education will advise us on a positive Covid case recorded at school. We have a sound contact tracing system in place so that if there is a confirmed case of someone who has been at school while infectious, we can quickly identify who was a close contact with that person. We will then quickly advise those contacts of what they need to do.

**Please make sure you fill in the Emergency contact sheet and return it to school as soon as possible with your child so we can get in touch with you if needed. Gemma our Office Manager is happy to take a call or respond to your emails. [ [info@pukeatua.school.nz](mailto:info@pukeatua.school.nz) ] [ 04 9398356 ]**

## **Preparing for Covid- 19**

It is wise to prepare for Covid – 19, ensuring you and your household have a plan and know what to do. Find out more here:

Be prepared for Covid – 19 – <https://covid19.govt.nz/prepare-and-stay/be-prepared-for-covid19/>  
Self-isolating at home because of Covid – 19.

Many people will be able to manage self-isolation with help from friends and whanau, but there is help available if you need it – both with health support and access to food and other essentials.

What to expect when self isolating at home. [ covid19.govt.nz]- <https://covid19.govt.nz/isolating-and-care/what-to-expect-when-self-isolating-at-home/>

While this might seem a little overwhelming at times, please know that we are well prepared for the year ahead. We are hopeful that there will not be too much disruption to learning, but like most of Aotearoa, we have become experts at adapting quickly to the changing landscape of Covid and education.

Updates will be on our Facebook page and school website. Please check regularly.

Don't hesitate to get in touch if you have concerns or need help in any way.

Nga mihi mahana

Staff at Pukeatua School.