

28 February 2021

Dear Parents, Caregivers and Students

Unfortunately with further cases of covid-19 confirmed yesterday, the Government announced that the whole of Auckland will move from alert level 1 to alert level 3 for the next 7 days. This means that Howick College will not be open for students this week between 1 March – 5 March 2021.

However if your child is twelve or thirteen years old and unable to stay at home, then supervised study will be available with the Senior Leadership Team from 9.00am to 3.00pm. No other students should attend or be on the school grounds.

If your child will need to attend school on Monday then you must email Dr Bennett before Monday 8.30am on [paul.bennett@howick.school.nz](mailto:paul.bennett@howick.school.nz). We will be unable to organise care for students who have not emailed in advance. Students should arrive at 9.00am in uniform, with a charged laptop, water and a packed lunch. Students should make their way to the Theatre. School buses will not be running.

If your child does not have a device to access online learning and needs to borrow one, or they need to collect anything from their locker then they should come to school between 10am – 11am on Monday. We will have a socially distanced queuing system organised outside the theatre. Students should wear a mask and wait their turn.

Teachers will provide online learning on Monday. All students should check their school email each morning where they will find instructions from their teachers. In the first instance, each subject teacher will be providing online learning for one week. Each subject teacher will also inform their students of one time and date when they will be providing an online lesson. Parents, please ask your child to share their online learning with you for each subject and if they need support please email their subject teachers in the first instance.

The Excellence Evening, Y9 Picnic other school events and trips are **all postponed** until further notice.

For all of our community, we need to keep ourselves, family and whannau safe. It is important that we all follow the rules. If you aren't sure if you have been to a place where someone with covid has visited please go to the MOH website for the 'locations of interest'. Covid symptoms can vary a lot with each person, so while we are familiar with the following symptoms:

- new or worsening cough
- fever
- shortness of breath
- sore throat
- sneezing and runny nose
- loss of smell

Some people may present with less typical symptoms such as only one of the following:

- muscle pain
- fever
- diarrhoea
- headache
- nausea
- confusion/irritability

If you or any member of your family experience any of these symptoms, please contact your GP or Healthline (0800 358 5453) and get tested.

In the meantime, remain safe and please continue to wash your hands, follow coughing and sneezing etiquette, stay at home, and if you are unwell contact Healthline for further advice.

We appreciate this is a disappointing and potentially difficult time for many in our community, but we will continue to provide support and communication throughout this period.

Yours faithfully

Mr I Ropati  
**Principal**