

Banks Avenue School



Principal Update 4 - Alert Level 2

Tuesday 7 September

Kia ora koutou

The Government has announced that we will move into Alert Level 2 at 11:59pm on Tuesday 7 September. School, however, will not **open until Thursday 9 September**. This will allow teachers to come into school on Wednesday to prepare for the shift to Level 2.

Tuesday 7 September will be the last day of online learning.

School is closed on Wednesday 8 September

School opens Thursday 9 September for all students.

Bubble Classes

We have had 28 children on our Level 3 roll; these are our *bubble children*. These children have been attending school onsite as their parents are essential workers. With school being closed on Wednesday, so teachers can prepare for Thursday, there will be no learning offered for bubble children.

Where possible we encourage parents of bubble children to endeavour to get home supervision for Wednesday, *however*, we also know with short notice and essential work needing to go on, this may not be possible.

Although we cannot offer teaching and learning on Wednesday, we will provide adult supervision for those bubble children, where there are no options at home.

If your child has been on our Level 3 roll then we will supervise them for the day in the school library. This supervision will begin at 8:55am and will finish at 3:00pm. We will contact individual families to discuss this option. You may drop them off at the library. Please scan as you come onto our site.

The two key public health principles we are focusing on at Level 2 are:

1. Reducing the risk of someone getting infected in the first place
 - a. Focusing on hygiene throughout the day.
 - i. Frequent sanitising of hands.
 - ii. Coughing into elbows.
 - b. Insisting all sick students or staff stay home; this will include minor complaints like coughs or sore throats. If in doubt, get tested.
 - c. Maintaining some social distancing.
 - i. No assemblies or team hui.
 - ii. No gatherings of more than 100 people.
- At Level 2, physical distancing in schools means students and staff maintaining enough distance so they are not breathing on or touching each other. *If you can smell or feel someone's breath you are too close.*
- d. Ensuring surfaces are regularly wiped down during the day.

- e. Asking that children bring their own drink bottles each day. The drinking fountains will not be in use this week. When we drop back to Level 1 we will be able to use our fountains again.
- f. Our school playgrounds will open at Level 2 and school sports continue, however, risks from these actions will be mitigated by hand hygiene.
- g. Masks: The updated guidance is that when there is community transmission, masks can help reduce the spread of Covid-19, however, masks are not required at schools and early learning services at Alert Levels 2 and 3.

2. Ensuring we can identify and contact anyone who becomes infected.

While we are at Level 2 we ask parents to drop off / pick up children from the gate; before and after school. Socially distance from each other while waiting at the gate.

If your child is in rooms 1, 2, 8, 9 or 10 (new entrant classes and year 1 /2 classes, through the gated area) you may come onto the grounds and wait on the other side of our swing fence. Please socially distance!

We acknowledge that in some situations it will be important for parents to come onto the school grounds, e.g., if your children are in different areas of the school and cannot cope with meeting you at the gate. To enable these parents and whānau to come onsite to drop off and pick up your children during Level 2 we will be activating GREEN Level 2 Passes to make this access and process easier. Alternatively if it is a one off and you come into school you must sign in and out at the office. *See more details on Level 2 passes below.*

SCAN HERE TO SIGN-IN WITH THE
NZ COVID TRACER APP



Banks Avenue School
91 Banks Avenue Shirley Christchurch

Attendance

We know some parents may not feel comfortable sending their children to school at Alert Level 2. If you are going to keep your child / children away at Alert Level 2 we ask that you email the office to let us know this. Please email: office@banksave.school.nz or phone

[385 4163](tel:3854163). Once you have notified us of your intention we will remove your child from our Level 2 roll and we will not contact you while they are absent. There is no distance learning offered by the school at Alert Level 2. Your child will be marked as absent.

After School Programmes

After school programmes continue at Level 2. Please check with your child care provider to check that this is the case.

Change of Circumstance

Having up to date contact details is really important to us as a school. If your phone number, email address or home address has changed please email office@banksave.school.nz to give us your new details.

In Summary

- At Alert Level 2 school is open for all pupils, however, it will not be business as usual.
- The last day of online learning and school bubbles will be Tuesday 7 September.
- School will be CLOSED on Wednesday 8 September.
- Supervision for *bubble children* (those who have been at school in the last week), without other homecare options, will be provided at school on Wednesday.
- School **will open**, with Level 2 restrictions, on **Thursday 9 September**
- **Sick children must stay home**. We will be very proactive in sending home children who show any sign of being unwell.

Symptoms to monitor for are any respiratory symptoms such as a cold, a head cold, blocked ears, cough, sneezing, chills and a fever. Anyone with those symptoms should stay home and contact your doctor or **Healthline 0800 358 5453** for advice, which may include getting tested for COVID-19.

- If you are keeping your child / children at home during Alert Level 2, email the office to let us know - office@banksave.school.nz
- No home learning option is provided at Alert Level 2.
- Parents are asked not to come onto school grounds unless it is very important. We have reactivated our Level 2 Pass so use these if you are onsite otherwise parents on the school grounds must report to the office to complete our contact tracing procedure. Also remember to scan the Covid Tracing App if you enter the grounds.
- Drop your child off at a gate in the morning and wait outside the school grounds at pick up time.
 - Class teachers will bring their classes to a gate at the end of each day so children can be reunited with parents.

Room 1 / 2 gate	Gate by new entrance (inside school grounds	Room 15 gate <i>Tricia</i>	Staff car park gate <i>Tracey</i>	Oscar / Bramwell street gate <i>David</i>
Ruru Room 1 and 2 children	The Nest Room 8, 9, 10	Tui, Kiwi and Kea Rooms 15-18	Team Miro	Team Miro

As always, if you have any questions or concerns, please email me so we can endeavour to address them. Email: principal@banksave.school.nz

Toni Burnside
Principal