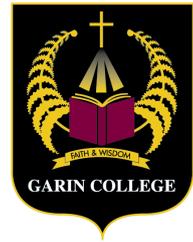


GARIN COLLEGE

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28 August 2020

Kia ora koutou Parents, Caregivers and Whānau of our Garin Community,

IMPORTANT COVID-19 ANNOUNCEMENT

NZ remains at COVID-19 Alert Level 2, I wish to give you an update on some changes taking place next week from 31 August and what these changes may mean for your student and whānau.

You are probably aware that the Prime Minister has announced that face coverings will be required on public transport from next Monday 31 August, at Alert Level 2. This does not apply to any child who is under 12 years of age and does not apply to school transport services. I confirm that face coverings will not be required to be worn on the Garin Express and Transport Services (school buses) provided by the Ministry of Education (we have good systems in place to manage safety on school transport).

Students do not need to wear face coverings at school. Other public health control measures are in place including children and staff staying home if they are sick, contact tracing, and hygiene requirements.

If your student does not need to wear a face covering but they want to, that's fine.

Face coverings are another way we can help keep ourselves and others safe, along with good hand hygiene, cough and sneeze etiquette, appropriate physical distancing when out and about and staying home if we are sick.

We're continuing contact tracing by having QR code posters at our entrances, so please check in every time you come onsite.

If you haven't already downloaded the NZ COVID Tracer app [the Ministry of Health's website has information to help you do that](#). We also keep a visitor register for anyone who doesn't have the app and also for anyone who comes onsite for a period of time. This will help us with contact tracing in the unlikely case it is needed.

The key Public Health message at Level 2 is to minimise the risk that someone gets infected in the first place, and second to ensure we can identify and contact anyone who has been in close contact with a person, if someone in a school is infected. It's important however that safe hygiene habits are practised by everyone, not just at school but at home as well. This is essential to minimise the risk that someone gets infected with Covid-19. For more information about the public health measures at Alert Level 2, you can visit the Covid-19 website: <https://covid19.govt.nz/>

If you have any questions about face coverings or anything else, please get in touch.

Ngā mihi nui, God bless

John Maguire

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12 August 2020

Kia ora koutou Parents, Caregivers and Whānau of our Garin Community,

IMPORTANT COVID-19 ANNOUNCEMENT

Following the announcement of the Government and Ministry of Health last night, New Zealand is moving back into Alert Level 2 from midday on Wednesday, August 12th, 2020. This will be reviewed at the end of the week.

REINSTATEMENT OF OUR COVID LEVEL 2 HEALTH AND SAFETY MEASURES.

We would like to advise the school community that Garin College remains open for students and staff with the reinstatement of our Covid level 2 Health and Safety measures.

These are:

- **Sickness:** Students are to stay at home if they are sick. If at school students show any symptoms of being unwell, we will contact parents and caregivers and send them home.
- **Hygiene:** Students are required to sanitise their hands upon entering a classroom and when departing for break. Students are to maintain handwashing with soap when going to the toilet. No sharing of food. Students are to cough or sneeze into their elbow or by covering their mouth and nose with tissues and are encouraged to use hand sanitizer after coughing or blowing their nose.
- **Physical Distancing:** Students should not touch or breathe on others. No hugs or handshakes and where practicable 1m distance is to be maintained.
- **Visitors:** Are not encouraged to the school except by appointment. Parents please use the drop off zone. If visitation to the school is required you must sign in and provide a current address and phone number.
- **Assemblies:** This Thursday's full school assemblies will be suspended and whānau time will be held instead.

BUSES

As no information has currently been received from the bus companies, we assume the buses will run as they did previously at level 2. Any change to this will be put on the website as soon as the information comes to hand.

SPORTS

At this stage we are awaiting updates about sporting events but under level 2 gatherings of up to 100 are permitted. Please note College basketball has been cancelled for Wednesday 12 August.

MASS

Unfortunately under Covid 19 Level 2 guidelines we are unable to hold our Mass scheduled for this Friday.

SCHOOL BALL

At this stage the school ball will go ahead due to level 2 is only in effect until midnight on Friday evening. Please be aware this can change at very short notice and we will deliver any updates via email.

The key Public Health message at Level 2 is to minimise the risk that someone gets infected in the first place, and second to ensure we can identify and contact anyone who has been in close contact with a person, if someone in a school is infected.

It's important however that safe hygiene habits are practised by everyone, not just at school but at home as well. This is essential to minimise the risk that someone gets infected with Covid-19.

For more information about the public health measures at Alert Level 2, you can visit the Covid-19 website: <https://covid19.govt.nz/>

Please be assured that we have this in hand at school and our website will be updated and an email will be sent to all our families with expected updates from the Ministry of Education.

Kia kaha, stay safe and be kind,

God Bless you all,

John Maguire
Principal