



# ROSCOMMON SCHOOL

WHAKAPONO KIA KOE – BELIEVE IN YOURSELF

## 2021 SPECIAL EDITION NEWSLETTER

Tuesday 23rd February 2021

Week 4, Term 1

Kia ora, Talofa, Malo e lelei, Kia orana, Bula vinaka, Fakaalofa lahi atu, Namaste, Kamusta, G'day and Greetings to all our families!



Kia ora Roscommon Whanau,

Yay for us that we are now back at Alert Level 1 as of midnight last night! Thank you everyone for doing what was needed at Alert Level 2 to keep us safe and get us back to enjoying working and moving around with some freedom.



So what do we need to remember now that it's Alert Level 1?

It's called an Alert Level for a reason- we still have to be alert to the fact that the whole world is experiencing this Covid 19 pandemic, and so we still have to be careful in how we go about our living and our learning here at school.

**But we can return to life that is almost normal, i.e.**

- **No more physical distancing requirements** (although where possible or practicable it's encouraged that you do this around people you don't know);
- **There are no specific health requirements;**
- **There are no restrictions on personal movement, so all students and staff are safe to come to school, and all students must attend school;**
- **We don't need to keep a track and trace register, although visitors to the school will still be asked to sign in.** However **we do encourage all adults entering our school grounds to use their Covid 19 Tracer App and the QR codes displayed in our school** to keep a record of where you've been for track and tracing purposes;

- **We'll keep our gate opening and closing times, and keep encouraging our kids to come to school on time** to avoid issues around gate access or having to sign in at the office. We'll also continue to limit the traffic flow of people using the office area as a thoroughfare, and ask that **students or families going to class do not use this office area as a short cut;**
- **There are no restrictions on numbers at gatherings or on physical activities.**



Here are some additional reminders from when we've previously been in Alert Level 1...

**There are key public health measures for everyone in New Zealand to follow. For schools and early learning services this means:**

- If people are sick, they should stay home, (phone Healthline or their GP and get tested if they have cold or flu symptoms).
- Continue to regularly wash and dry hands, sneeze and cough into elbows.
- Soap, water and the ability to dry hands should be provided in bathrooms.
- Regularly disinfect shared surfaces.
- Support contact tracing efforts by using the displayed QR Code posters for the NZ COVID Tracer App.

**We've attached our updated Social Story for Alert Level 1 (see over the page). We ask that you please read through this for yourself and with your child** so that you are familiar with some of our processes at this Alert Level. Again, everyone's safety and well-being, that can support learning in our school, is our main priority.

Nga mihi,  
Sonia Johnston  
Principal

# ADAPTED SOCIAL STORY

Here we go again- We're back to Alert Level 1.

## At school this means...

### **Coming into school- Parents, Visitors, Students (as independent learners)**

We don't need a school bubble anymore. Visitors and parents are welcome to come back into the school. Our teachers did notice that we were more independent when we came into school by ourselves. Unless I'm still little, like in Year 1, or if you need to talk to my teacher, then it would be good for me to keep up that independence of coming in and getting myself ready for the day.

### **Only visitors signing in, but please still use our QR code with your Covid 19 Tracer App**

There's no more track and tracing. This means you don't need to sign in if you do drop me off or pick me up from school. Only visitors will still need to sign in at the office.

### **No physical distancing**

We don't need to physically distance from other people. This also means when we see or greet others, we can now go back to doing handshakes, hongis, hi fives, or hugs (if they are people we know really well).

We will remember to respect other people's personal space. Not everyone will want to greet others in these ways. Some people might take some time to get used to doing these things again, and that's okay. We will check with others if they are okay with shaking hands, doing hongis, hi fives, or hugs, before we use these to greet others.

### **Staying home if you are sick**

If we are unwell, we will stay home and get medical advice. If we have these symptoms- cough, runny nose, sore throat, fever, shortness of breath, then we should get some advice. Our parents can call the Healthline number (0800 611 116) or phone our doctor.

If we are unwell at school, our teachers will give us a mask to wear so we don't breathe any germs on others. We will have a quiet place to wait in our class/ team while our families are contacted from the office. Our parents will talk with the school and it will be decided if we should come home.

### **Bring our own water bottle**

We will keep bringing our own water bottle to school every day. Very soon all of the school drinking fountains will be changed over to taps to fill our bottles. Until then, we will fill our bottles at home, and in the classroom during the school day.

### **Keep up good hygiene**

We will keep up our good hygiene practices. This means regularly washing and drying, or sanitising our hands. We'll also try not to touch our faces. Our work surfaces like our tables or desks will be disinfected regularly too.

### **Eat safely**

We will continue to eat our morning tea and lunch in our classrooms. Any food items like fruit or our lunches will be handed out to us. Our teachers will encourage us not to share food or drinks.

### **Meet altogether again**

We can finally go back to having our school assemblies in the hall, and having other big gatherings we'd usually have in our school. We look forward to seeing your parents and whanau joining us at these events.

### **Keep up good ventilation (airflow)**

Our teachers will keep opening some of our windows to keep a good amount of fresh air flowing through our rooms. We can still wear extra clothing in addition to our school uniforms if it's cold (this mainly applies to when it's winter).

### **Keep our gate times, and coming to school on time**

The gate opening and closing times will stay the same. The gates will open at 8.00am and close at 9.15am. They will then reopen at the end of the day at 2.45pm and close at 3.15pm.

Most kids have been coming to school on time during Alert Level 2- so let's just keep doing that.