

TE HORO SCHOOL ALERT LEVEL 2 PLAN FOR SCHOOLING

It is important to note that this Plan is based on both Ministry of Health and Ministry of Education guidelines and requirements and we will respond and adapt if Covid Alert levels, restrictions and information change. Like you, we are working towards what the new Delta Level 2 looks like in a legal and practical sense in our school, in the community and in wider society as we move forward in challenging times. Be rest assured that as a school, we have the best interests of all our students wellbeing and learning, as our primary focus and we are also mindful of supporting our teachers and our support staff too.

Key Priorities & Principles

Our two priorities for both students and teachers will be their wellbeing and re-establishing routines. We acknowledge that everyone is going to be at different readiness to learn levels and have different stress levels. We will give everyone some time to work through this experience and to settle into 'normal' school life.

Priority 1 - Safety and Wellbeing

- Focus on good hygiene routines to ensure we all stay well and reduce the risk of infection
- Ensure we can identify and contact anyone who becomes infected
- Relationships and routines are paramount at this time
- Managing worries and anxiety. This is a tough time, it is ok to feel worried. Seek help and support if you need it. Class programmes will continue to focus on student hauora/wellbeing.

Priority 2 - Learning and Teaching

- Learning engagement and progress will be successful when we have wellbeing needs first.
- Keep learning and daily routines as familiar as possible.
- We will prioritise learning time to maximise instruction times for Writing, Maths, Reading, and preparation for transitions (e.g. Y8's to Secondary School)

General Principles & Summary

- School is **open for all children**. All schools are open on site for all year levels but distance learning will still need to be available if a school has staffing issues and for students that are not able to attend.
- All students will be at school **except** for those with **compromised immune systems** or those that **have symptoms**, or have **had close contact with a confirmed case**.
- All staff will be at work **except** for those designated as having and/or
 - an underlying medical condition

- o a compromised immune system
- o those aged over 70 who choose to stay at home - isolation is not a requirement at Level 2
- o those who provide 'day to day' care for a person with one or more of the above
- **Distance learning** is available **for those unable to attend school** (e.g. self-isolating) .
- Children, young people and staff should **be far enough away from each other so that they are not breathing on or touching each other**, coupled with good hygiene practices and regular cleaning of commonly touched surfaces. There does not need to be a specific measurement but where practicable 1m should be used as a guide, particularly between adults.
- Any educational facilities connected to a **confirmed or probable case of COVID-19 must close on an individual or group basis for 72 hours** to allow contact tracing and cleaning, and **then potentially for a further 14 days**.
- **School transport (bus)** will continue unless otherwise notified.
- **SKIDS** (after school care) programmes can remain open.
- An increased number of school redevelopment and construction projects may be able to be completed if the requirements of Alert Level 2 can be met.
- Face coverings are **not mandated** for use when in schools. Masks for 12+ recommended (parents can decide if they wish for their child to wear one at school). We will be supportive of whatever decision parents make.
- Lambs and Kids **can come to school** so long as all members of the household they live with are healthy.

Key Points	Description
Attendance	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ● It is safe for all children and students to be on-site (some unvaccinated children vulnerable to illness may choose to remain at home). ● Anyone who is self-isolating, or who has been advised by health authorities to remain at home while they wait for their COVID-19 test results must stay home. ● Children at higher risk of severe illness from COVID-19 (e.g. those with underlying medical conditions, especially if not well-controlled who are not vaccinated) They are encouraged to take additional precautions when leaving home. Parents, caregivers and students will need to work with the school to develop a plan to manage a safe return to school. ● Distance learning will continue to be available to those who choose to remain at home.
Method of delivery for learning	On-site with distance learning provided for those requiring to self-isolate, waiting for a test result or choosing to remain at home because they are at higher risk of severe illness from COVID-19.

Staff and Student Illness & Symptoms of COVID-19 (for students and staff)

We will send any child who is sick or showing cold/flu-like symptoms home.

If a child or staff member is sick, they should stay home (phone Healthline or their GP and get tested if a doctor or health professional recommends them to do so):

- Staff are to observe students/children on arrival checking for symptoms and ask those presenting as unwell to go home or arrange for parents and caregivers to come and pick up. Please note, this does not mean that temperatures are to be taken. This means **all teaching staff will be in their classrooms from 8:30am and no children will be able to enter into the classroom prior to 8:30am**. Anyone deemed to be unwell is to be sent to the Office to be sent home.
- Principals at state and state-integrated schools have authority to preclude a student from attending if they believe on reasonable grounds they may have a communicable disease under section 77 of the Education and Training Act 2020 – see [Guide to Legal Powers \(external link\)](#)
- Contact the local medical officer of health if there are any concerns about someone believed on reasonable grounds to be ill, refusing to stay away.

Symptoms of COVID-19 are similar to a range of other illnesses, such as influenza. Having them does not necessarily mean that you have COVID-19.

Symptoms include:

- a cough
- a high temperature of at least 38°C
- shortness of breath
- sore throat
- sneezing and runny nose
- temporary loss of smell.

These symptoms do not necessarily mean you have COVID-19. The symptoms are similar to other illnesses that are much more common, such as cold and flu.

Shortness of breath is a sign of possible pneumonia and requires immediate medical attention.

If you have these symptoms please call Healthline for free on [0800 358 5453](tel:08003585453) or you can call your doctor immediately. If you're outside New Zealand call [+64 9 358 5453](tel:+6493585453) or your doctor. Call your doctor before visiting.

Distancing for Staff and Students

- Staff are able to work with more than one group/class of students within the school
- Children, young people and staff should be far enough away from each other so that they are not breathing on or touching each other, coupled with good hygiene practices and regular cleaning of commonly touched surfaces. There does not need to be a specific measurement but where practicable and reasonable one metre can be used as a guide, particularly between adults, and when very large numbers of students are congregating (eg, assemblies).
- Good hygiene practices should be used (coughing into your elbow, handwashing and drying) and regular cleaning of commonly touched surfaces will occur.
- There are situations where physical distancing is not possible, such as some sporting activities. In these situations extra emphasis on handwashing and drying (or cleansing with hand sanitiser) before and after activities and regular cleaning of equipment is very important.
- **In an early learning environment, and we would also suggest our Junior School, it is not always possible to have a physical distance between children and staff.** Young children require a lot of physical support and it is not possible to explain or maintain a physical distance between young children given the age of the children. **This means good hygiene practices are even more important** (coughing into your elbow, regular handwashing, and drying).
- Mass gatherings – educational facilities, and school transport are not considered mass gatherings because they are managed environments. This means **there are no restrictions on numbers of people indoors or outside at schools** and early learning services other than what other public health or health and safety measures require.
The exception is where people from outside the school may be attending, e.g. for a school event. In these examples and if a school is hiring out their hall or allowing community groups to use school facilities, the mass gathering rules will apply.
- Sports and playgrounds – school playgrounds, sports equipment use and activities can continue. Contact sports can continue. This relies on being able to contact trace who is on site during school hours and at school team training and competitions. Any events that recommence will need to have a contact tracing register in place to record those playing for and against teams.

	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ● There is no bubble concept at Level 2, so there are no restrictions on groups of children and students mixing with others on site. Where practicable where groups/classes do mix – attendance should be recorded as it should if the composition of groups and classes change during the day. ● Teachers/staff are not restricted to one group. ● Children do not need to sit in the same place every day at Alert Level 2. ● Staff meetings can be held on site with appropriate public health measures in place. ● Staff can share common space with another staff member (eg, staff room or office) but it is recommended that where practicable a 1 metre distance is used, but this is not a requirement.
<p>Distancing for parents and visitors on site & Contact Tracing</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ● There are no restrictions on visitors with the exception that we must adhere to the rules for gatherings (eg, events and performances where others come on-site, including parents and caregivers) plus meet all contact tracing requirements. Visitors are encouraged to wear a face covering. ● Volunteers can be used at Alert Level 2 in class as long as they are meeting all the public health requirements and are recorded in our timetable and/or visitor register with up to date contact information for them. ● Anyone onsite needs to be extra aware of their responsibilities regarding COVID-19, including being encouraged to be vaccinated, monitor for symptoms, get tested if they have symptoms, and use the COVID-19 tracer app. ● For visitors, parents and caregivers physical distancing of 2 metres is recommended to align with public health measures outside the school grounds. ● Te Horo School must abide by Covid-19 Public Health Requirements for Contact Tracing. Contact tracing remains a priority through use of our visitor register, timetable and attendance register. We are required to display QR code posters for the NZ COVID Tracer App. ● To support contact tracing, we will record all visitors who are on-site for a period of time, including parents and caregivers, in our visitor register (at the Office during school hours).

- For drop-offs and pickups, if the parent or caregiver uses the app you don't need to capture them in your visitor register. For parents and caregivers who cannot use the App, we will continue to record their details in a simple register at the gate when they do pick-ups and drop-offs and come into your school grounds.
- **We encourage parents and caregivers not to enter the grounds, or classrooms when dropping students off and picking them up if possible. Parents and caregivers encouraged to do drop offs and pick ups outside the gate where practicable.** We understand there may be exceptions to this - our very young students may need to be escorted to their classes and picked up from them, or there may be a need to come and talk to staff. In this case parents and caregivers will be required to either scan the QR code or sign a contact tracing register at the Office, classroom, or gate during drop off and pick up times AND we ask that you wear a face mask.
- We encourage parents and caregivers to drop their children off at school from 8:30am in the morning in order to space out the arrival of students and ease the flow of traffic and people.
- Please make arrangements with your child/ren so they know which gate you will pick them up from, should you not need to enter the grounds.
- For Pick Ups
 - Class Teachers will have students packed up and ready to leave by 2:45pm
 - Children going on the bus and SKIDS will be sent to the bus line/SKIDS first
 - Children making their own way home will then be sent off
 - Children being picked up will then be sent to one of following places;
 - Older siblings will be sent to R1-3 to wait with their younger sibling/s
 - Those waiting for their parents to be picked up from the Office gate will be waiting on the turf outside the Office supervised by staff, they will be dismissed once a parent/caregiver is sighted outside the gate.
 - Those that will be picked up from the 'Junior' gate will be waiting on the turf next to the swimming pool supervised by staff, they will be dismissed once a parent/caregiver is sighted outside the gate
 - The only exception will be the Room 1 -3 classes and their siblings - teachers will continue their routine of having all children come out to the verandah for pick up and will release children once their parent/caregiver is sighted. Please do not approach the verandah, wait

	<p>on the concrete at a distance and ensure you have been sighted and marked off. Room 1 -3 teachers will have a class list, with siblings noted and will tick off who collects the children. If the person collecting the families is not a noted parent or caregiver on our system they will need to be noted on the contact tracing register at the gate (name, address, contact phone number).</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ● Parents please; <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ○ Do not congregate in groups. ○ Do not socialise - including in the car park. This is purely a drop-off ○ Obey the 2m spacing rule as per supermarkets etc. ○ Do not linger at school to play on school equipment after/before school ● To manage distancing at the school office and gate we will; <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ○ Have 1 in 1 out ○ Staff at both gates from 8:30 – 8:55am and 2:45-3:05pm to monitor and remind people about sanitising, distance, signing contact tracing registers – we will prop these gates open during these times. ○ Signs on gate explaining process – including 2m distance from others, signing contact tracing register ○ Continue to message to community about process ● Contact tracing registers must be set up and identify which children (via the roll) and adults are on site (via rosters and timetables, Office sign in book, classroom contact tracing register for R1-3, including recording if there is a different composition of children and adults during the day (via the timetable). This includes recording visitors to the site, including parents (Office sign in). ● Visitor registers will be kept for at least 2 months.
Face Coverings	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ● Face coverings are not mandated for use when in schools. However, the Director General of Health strongly encourages staff and students aged 12 and above to wear face coverings in <u>secondary school</u> settings to align with the requirements when out and about and indoor public places. <u>This is not a requirement for anyone in a school setting.</u> ● It remains an option for individuals and a decision for the individuals and whānau. Whatever decisions students and teachers make, it is their own to make and needs to be respected. Where an individual chooses to use a face covering they should supply and wear their own, and to do so safely. This option applies to younger children too.

	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ● Public health advice for those under six is getting children to cough and sneeze into their elbow and wash and dry hands. The use of masks is permitted but not actively encouraged. ● There will be differences of view about the use of face coverings, and it is important to show tolerance toward individual choice in this matter.
Water Fountains Closed	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ● Students must bring their own water bottles - clearly named. ● Staff to monitor these in the classrooms and refill from classroom taps.
Hygiene	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ● Hand sanitiser at entry to class rooms and in shared spaces. Soap, water and the ability to dry hands must be provided in bathrooms. ● Where practicable ensure that children and young people regularly wash and dry hands, cough and sneeze into their elbow, and try to avoid touching their face. ● Staff prop or wedge doors open where practicable, if not possible wipe the handles regularly throughout the day. ● Indoor spaces should be well-ventilated for example by opening windows, doors and any vents. Good practice would include fully opening all windows during breaks and after school for as long as possible. ● Teachers to focus on handwashing and student personal hygiene, etc. ● Place hand sanitiser in close proximity to equipment shared by staff (e.g., printer/copier) and at the entrance to the staffroom or shared staff spaces ● Keep classroom temperatures to 18 degrees. 18 – 20 degrees is a comfortable temperature, below that there is increased risk. ● Toys that had been put away under Alert Level 3 because they cannot be easily wiped down or cleaned frequently can be used again if all children are regularly washing their hands and are staying home if unwell. ● Outdoor play areas and equipment including sandpits can be used but children must wash their hands after use ● Minimise touching of other people or their belongings
Home/Distance Learning	<p>Teachers <u>will not be providing both</u> of the following</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. A comprehensive in-school classroom programme 2. A full home/distance/online learning programme

	<p>Teachers will be providing one or the other but not both. At Level Two, our teacher’s primary focus will be their in-school programmes.</p>
<p>School Cleaning</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ● The only requirement specific to Alert Level 2 is to clean and disinfect surfaces once each day. This requirement is particularly focused towards high-touch surfaces such as door handles, bathroom taps, desk tops, handrails, etc. If surfaces look visibly dirty, they should be cleaned first. It’s best to use a disinfectant that is antiviral and follow instructions. A bleach/water solution will be appropriate for most surfaces. ● There is no requirement to clean surfaces between uses by different groups, or to clean playground equipment. It is suggested that other shared equipment is cleaned regularly but, again, there is no requirement to undertake cleaning between each use by different groups or individuals. ● Washing hands before and after using shared equipment including playground equipment remains a priority. Many school playgrounds will be accessible out of school hours and unable to be monitored for contact tracing. Ensuring students wash and dry their hands before and after use will help mitigate any possible risk from others using the equipment e.g. on the weekend. ● https://covid19.govt.nz/covid-19/how-were-uniting/cleaning-surfaces/ ● Disinfect and clean all surfaces daily - spray and leave on surfaces for 30 seconds before wiping down. ● Ensure the availability of appropriate cleaning supplies for cleaning of high-touch surfaces. ● High touch surfaces to be cleaned by those in the area at the start of the day, after breaks times, and as required <p>Cleanliness is going to be a significant focus over the coming months. As we all want to have the cleanest and most hygienic school that we can affordably have, we will be implementing a few changes.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ● Our commercial cleaners will now focus firstly on toilets and hard surfaces-lino floors, tables, doors, windows, chairs and other furniture, etc. ● Teachers will get students to assist with the wipe down of tables, backs of chairs and door handles after each break. ● Renegotiate our cleaning contracts in light of these changes.

<p>Assemblies, Hui & gatherings</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ● There are no restrictions on the number of students attending internal school gatherings. ● We will hold assemblies, hui and gatherings where we feel confident we can maintain sufficient distance between students so they aren't touching or breathing directly on each other. ● Very large gatherings of students such as assemblies, if they are to go ahead, should take place in well-ventilated areas or outdoors. Similarly any other events where students might closely congregate indoors in large numbers such as watching sports or cultural events etc, should be avoided. Outdoor activities are lower risk, as there is better ventilation but spectators should still practice physical distancing. ● If bringing others on-site for gatherings, including parents and caregivers, any rules for gatherings must apply. Visitors and parents will need to socially distance and wear a face covering.
<p>PE and Break times</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ● Physical education classes and break time activities can include access to sports equipment including playgrounds but hygiene practice should be observed before and after playing with equipment. That means wash and sanitisation of hands before and after touching equipment. There will also need to be regular cleaning of shared equipment such as balls, sticks etc. ● Physical distance is not possible in some sporting activities. In these situations, extra emphasis on handwashing and drying (or cleansing with hand sanitiser) before and after activities and regular cleaning of equipment is very important.
<p>Interschool & Schoolwide events</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ● The exemption from physical distancing requirements in schools, does not apply for any inter-school activities. Therefore, for curriculum-related learning that brings together participants from more than one school, you must have physical distancing of at least 1 metre between participants wherever practical. Eg, technology schools. ● For non-curriculum-related activities, including Out of Hours Music and Art, inter-school sports or inter-school cultural activities, they can go ahead but the rules for gatherings must apply (which for example, limits the number of spectators). ● Activities such as singing, dancing and shouting are considered higher-risk and should be done in well-ventilated areas or outdoors. ● External providers can come on-site including for example other teachers and team coaches/managers. Physical distancing of at least 1 metre will apply for spectators, where practicable, for any inter-school activities. ● Interschool Sports Events may be postponed or cancelled ● Staff such as RTLB and relievers will be able to work across different schools

	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ● School libraries are able to operate as normal if students and staff are undertaking regular hand washing and staying away if sick. ● Shared supplies and equipment are able to be used if students and staff are undertaking regular hand washing and staying away if sick. ● For offsite activities, consider using a controlled environment rather than an uncontrolled one where practicable, and work closely with the provider (PCBU) to agree your health and safety plan for that event, including individual plans for those vulnerable to serious illness with COVID-19.
Music, instruments, singing, etc.	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ● Practices and rehearsals can go ahead – physical distancing of one metre is recommended where practicable especially for higher risk activities such as singing and using wind instruments. ● For singing, consider keeping a 1 metre distance as a precaution and where practicable (and similarly when using wind instruments). ● When singing or when wind instruments are used, ensure good ventilation or a large space.
Food preparation and Food Technology	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ● Class ‘cooking’ will not occur at Level 2 ● Y7&8 Tech will be postponed if timetabled. This is due to the rules around food preparation in a school environment.
Bus Services	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ● Schools must ensure their transport providers have reliable, up-to-date bus lists at all times to ensure everyone knows who is being transported each day, to enable contact tracing. ● Transport operators will maintain up-to-date information on special assistance (SESTA) students they are transporting each day. ● Face coverings ARE NOT required on school transport for bus services - this includes charter buses. Face coverings <u>are recommended for children 12+</u>. ● Hand sanitisers will be available for each student to use as they board the vehicle. ● Vehicles and surfaces will be sanitised after each journey by the transport company. ● Seats in close proximity to the driver will be left empty. ● Any student who is unwell should not travel on a school or public bus.
Staffing	<p>All staff will be at work except for those designated as having and/or</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ○ an underlying medical condition ○ a compromised immune system ○ those aged over 70 who choose to stay at home ○ those who provide ‘day to day’ care for a person with one or more of the above <p>Staff to work with their GP or specialist if they need help understanding their own level of risk and how best to stay healthy.</p>

Underlying medical conditions include:

- serious respiratory disease, including chronic lung disease and severe asthma
- serious heart conditions
- immunocompromised conditions
- severe obesity — a body mass index (BMI) of 40 or higher
- hypertension that is not well controlled
- diabetes that is not well controlled
- chronic kidney disease
- liver disease.

Many conditions and treatments can weaken a person's immune system, including:

- having chemotherapy or radiotherapy
- bone marrow or organ transplantation
- some blood cancers
- immune deficiencies including HIV infection
- immunity weakening medications such as high-dose corticosteroids and disease-modifying anti-rheumatic drugs.

Other people at risk

- Those over 70
- Ethnic minorities
- People with a history of smoking are more likely to have severe symptoms of COVID-19 and be admitted to intensive care.
- People who are pregnant. We recommend people who are pregnant take extra precautions, as evidence shows they may be at greater risk of poor outcomes. If you are pregnant and work in an area where there is a high risk of exposure to COVID-19, such as some healthcare settings, you can: discuss and agree with your employer a risk assessment and options for different ways of working, agree on leave from work and pay arrangements with your employer, if you cannot work safely at your workplace or from home. These leave arrangements may be important to ensure you remain eligible for paid parental leave.

Employees who cannot return to work for health reasons should work from home, or be provided with alternative duties where it is safe to do so. If neither option is available, the Board may choose to provide discretionary paid leave (at their cost) to teaching staff, or approved annual leave or other paid leave for non-teaching staff. Where no

	<p>paid leave arrangement can be agreed, special unpaid leave can be provided. Sick leave provided to teachers and principals due to COVID-19 can be disregarded on application to the Ministry. Dependant sick leave is not eligible to be disregarded.</p> <p>Where a person is not able return to work as normal due to an underlying health concern they should provide appropriate medical evidence to support this request (such as a medical certificate obtained at the employees cost). Staff who are at-risk and are staying away from school on advice of their medical practitioner, are likely to be prioritised to support students who are learning from home.</p> <p>Employees must stay at home if they are self-isolating, or are caring for a dependant who is self-isolating, on instruction of public health. In this case:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ○ Employees should work remotely (usually from home) wherever practicable ○ Where it is not possible for an employee to work remotely, discretionary paid leave should be given, paid at normal rates.
<p>Property</p>	<p>School construction projects can continue as long as health and safety protocols continue to be adhered to. If your school board is leading a building project, they are required to ensure:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ● contractors are continuing to follow Ministry of Health guidelines and the New Zealand COVID-19 Construction Protocols, and ● they have received a copy of the contractor’s COVID-19 plan and completed COVID-19 checklist before work restarts. <p>If the Ministry is leading the building project, your delivery manager will have confirmed that these protocols are being followed and that the checklist is in place.</p> <p>Property checklist for returning to school will be completed by the caretaker and Principal. The property checklist can be found here.</p>
<p>Animals at School</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ● The COVID-19 pandemic is driven by human-to-human transmission. There is no evidence that domestic animals (pets or livestock) play a role in the spread of COVID-19. ● It remains good practice to wash hands properly before and after interacting with animals. ● Any person ill with COVID-19 should avoid contact with pets and other animals. ● It is recommended domestic pets are isolated at home with their owners – and not moved off the property – when there is COVID-19 in a household. ● Animals can come to school so long as all members of the household they live with are healthy.

Actions at Level Two

Situation/Trigger	Response
When a child, young person, or staff member has symptoms, and has had close contact with a confirmed case. And there is no known community transmission.	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ● Close the school temporarily if there is a delay in test results to enable contact tracing and tracking ● The Director of Education will be notified by the local Medical Officer of Health, and will talk to the Principal ● Child/young person and family self-isolate ● Child/young person tested ● Track and trace, with close contacts going into self-isolation ● Decision to close school is based on test results – close temporarily if there is a delay in getting test results ● Maintain thorough cleaning practice in school ● Provide information and resources to the parent community and enable opportunities to ask questions.
When a staff member has symptoms in school. And when there is no known community transmission.	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ● Close the school temporarily if there is a delay in test results to enable contact tracing and tracking ● The Director of Education will be notified by the local Medical Officer of Health, and will talk to the Principal ● Staff member self-isolates ● Staff member is tested ● Track and trace, with close contacts going into self-isolation ● Decision to close school is based on test results – close temporarily if there is a delay in getting test results ● Maintain thorough cleaning practice in schools ● Provide information and resources to the parent community and enable opportunities to ask questions.
When a child, young person or staff member tests positive and has been at school	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ● Close the school/centre for at least 72 hours to enable contact tracing, tracking testing and cleaning ● The Director of Education will be notified by the local Medical Officer of Health, and will talk to the Principal ● Close school immediately for at least 72 hours and up to a week. Based on number of contacts and timing of the weekend ● Child, young person or staff member self-isolates ● Child, young person or staff member is tested ● Contact trace, track and test, with close contacts going into self-isolation ● Cleaning and disinfecting according to Health specifications ● Assess if other programmes can continue to operate (e.g. after school care) ● Provide information and resources to the parent community and enable opportunities to ask questions.

Public Health Measures and Recommendations

Measure/risk	Alert Level 2
Overarching description / implication for education	There is a low risk of community transmission within the applied area. It is safe to send your children to schools, early learning services and tertiary education. There will be appropriate measures in place.

Public health measures at all alert levels:

If a child or staff member is sick, they should stay home (phone Healthline or their GP and get tested if a doctor or health professional recommends them to do so):

- Staff are to observe students/children on arrival checking for symptoms and ask those presenting as unwell to go home or arrange for parents and caregivers to come and pick up. Please note, this does not mean that temperatures are to be taken.
- Principals at state and state-integrated schools have authority to preclude a student from attending if they believe on reasonable grounds they may have a communicable disease under section 77 of the Education and Training Act 2020 – see [Guide to Legal Powers \(external link\)](#)
- Contact the local medical officer of health if there are any concerns about someone believed on reasonable grounds to be ill, refusing to stay away.

Regularly wash and dry hands, cough and sneeze into your elbow, don't touch your face.

[Schools connected to a confirmed or probable case of COVID-19 \(external link\)](#) must close on an individual or group basis for 72 hours to allow contact tracing and cleaning. They could be closed for a further 14 days (but open for distance learning) – you will work with public health units to manage this and the direction to close will come from the Medical Officer of Health.

Stringent self-isolation of those who display relevant symptoms of COVID-19, test positive for COVID-19, have been in close contact with someone who tests positive for COVID-19 – [Ministry of Health information for self-isolation \(external link\)](#)

Face coverings are not required to be worn, however are strongly encouraged for students aged 12 and above in secondary settings.

Schools are required to display QR Code posters for the NZ COVID Tracer App (and to have other contact tracing systems in place including an attendance register and visitor register).

It is recommended to keep classroom temperatures to 18 degrees. 18 – 20 degrees is a comfortable temperature, below that there is increased risk – from a cold household, workplace or school.

Indoor spaces should be well-ventilated for example by opening windows, doors and any vents. Good practice would include fully opening all windows during breaks and after school for as long as possible. [School Bulletin – Advice on ventilation](#)

Other website references

<https://www.education.govt.nz/covid-19/>

<https://www.education.govt.nz/covid-19/alert-level-2-fags-for-schools-and-early-learning-centres/>

<https://worksafe.govt.nz/managing-health-and-safety/novel-coronavirus-covid/alert-level-2-whats-worksafe-approach/>

[How Alert Level 2 will apply to the sport and recreation sector in New Zealand \[PDF\],](#)

MPI Food Handling –

<https://www.mpi.govt.nz/protection-and-response/coronavirus/coronavirus-and-food-safety/covid-19-and-food-safety-in-alert-level-2/>

<http://education.govt.nz/school/health-safety-and-wellbeing/student-and-staff-health/novel-coronavirus-2019-ncov/information-for-staffing-provisions/managing-staff-leave-during-covid-19/>