

Bruce McLaren Intermediate School

Principal's Update: 11 November 2021

For Bruce McLaren Intermediate School Parents and Caregivers

Kia ora koutou katoa

I hope this letter finds you and your whānau safe and happy.

We are excited to welcome students back on site under Alert Level 3 from next Wednesday, 17 November.

We know that learning kanohi ki te kanohi, face to face, is the best option for children and young people.

School will look different for your child. We encourage you to talk to your child about our plans and why this is happening.

At BMIS we are observing MOH & MOE guidelines to mitigate COVID-19 transmission which is present in the population.

Students Commencing on Wednesday, 17 November 2021:

These guidelines inform Staff, Students and Whanau about how our school will operate to enable the safe return of students to BMIS in the current COVID-19 Level.

- All staff on site by 15 November **MUST** be fully vaccinated, or have had at least their first vaccination as per the Covid-19 Health Order. Those who have only had their first vaccination will be required to have the second by 1 January 2022. Until such time as they get that second vaccination, those staff will need to provide a weekly **negative** Covid-19 Test.
- All staff will provide a negative COVID test result no later than five days prior to the re-opening of the school on 17 November.
- All Staff will wear a mask while on the school site, except while eating and drinking.
- Staff and students are expected to be on site not before 8:45am daily and not after 3:15pm, Monday to Friday.
- **The school will be working as two different Year Levels** to help reduce the number of students in classroom bubbles and out in the playground at any given time. More details below.
- Please note that learning will be online 9:00am – 10:00am every day (Monday to Friday) for those students who will not be attending on site. This will ensure that students remain involved in their class learning. This may look different from what is happening now, and we need to be mindful of teachers trying to run both a face to face and distance learning programme.
- **There will be no more than 15 people in any one classroom**, and this will become a BUBBLE.
- The BUBBLE of 15 includes the Teacher, any additional Teacher, Teacher Aides and students. 15 will allow for safer distancing between people in rooms.
- Every classroom will have a set break time that will ensure that they remain separated from other classes and students outside of their school Whanau, in the school. Any behaviour that compromises bubbles will be excluded from being on site.
- Toilets will be allocated to specific BUBBLES.
- Each BUBBLE will use the hand sanitiser to ensure that they are safe in their bubble. Before and after breaks and when entering and exiting the bubble, classroom sanitising will be done again. Your child knows about our COVID-19 mantra "SANITISE SANITISE SANITISE" and it is expected that they do this.

- Students will not be able to play with sports equipment or use the adventure playground as this will compromise social distancing.
- **YEAR 7 STUDENTS:**
Year 7 students will be at school for Week 5 (Wednesday, 17 Nov to Friday, 19 Nov) and Week 7 (Monday, 29 Nov to Friday, 3 Dec).
During Week 6 & Week 8, Year 7 students will continue to do distance learning, with/from their classroom teacher and specialist tasks.

- **YEAR 8 STUDENTS:**
Year 8 students will be at school for Week 6 (Monday, 22 Nov to Friday, 26 Nov) and Week 8 (Monday, 6 Dec to Friday, 10 Dec).
During Week 7 & Week 9, Year 8 students will continue to do distance learning, with/from their classroom teacher and specialist tasks.

Alternating the on site Year Level learning allows Year 8 students to finish their eight years of primary schooling, two years of intermediate schooling and complete tasks in the Year 8 school calendar – on site, before departing for high school.

Please click [HERE](#) to complete the form so that we know to expect your child back at school.

- If a family is not able to provide supervision for their child at home because adults are required to work and are not home during school hours, and there is no supervision in the home, these students will be able to be at school every day regardless of their year level. Parents/caregivers need to email Nicki at admin@bruceyclaren.school.nz if their child needs to be added to this **ESSENTIAL WORKERS** list. [This LINK will support AL3.2 decision making.](#)
- Parents/caregivers will be required to wear a mask when coming onto the school site and will only be able to enter the main Office Area. They will be required to sign in AND QR Code check in. Please wait outside the door to be attended to.
- **Students on arrival to school will go directly to their BUBBLE CLASSROOM. Times for leaving school each day will also be staggered** from 2:50pm – 3:00pm to enable numbers of students leaving school to be reduced.
- Students will be expected to come to school and leave school maintaining social distance. Please ensure you talk to your child about the importance of this.
- **Students from Year 4+ are to wear a mask/face covering at school at this time. Please provide your child with a mask/face covering.**
- The School Wellness Centre will be closed. No child will be able to remain at school if they are unwell. The family will be contacted to come and collect the child from the main entrance gate. A staff member will walk the child to the main gate once parents/caregivers have arrived.
- **Pit Stop is closed.** Your child is to bring a water bottle and food. They are not to share food or drink.
- **School buses are in operation.** Students 12 years and over are to wear a mask/face covering while on the bus.

WHAT YOU CAN DO TO HELP:

- Stay at home if you or your child is sick.
- Avoid catching up with other parents, children and whānau at the gates.
- Wear a face covering and maintain a two-metre distance from people not in your household bubble.

It is with your child's, the staff and community's safety in mind that this Community Update may seem very bureaucratic. SAFETY first.

If you have any questions please do not hesitate to contact me.

BMIS staff are ready and waiting to be back at school and have been looking forward to this since Day 1 of Lockdown!

You know what is best for your child. We understand that. We are here to support your child/our ākonga like they are one of our own.

There is NO staff zoom on Monday, 15 November, however, students will have distance learning tasks to continue with. Staff are preparing for the transition to onsite learning.

BMIS is up and racing. WE'VE GOT THIS!

He waka eke noa.

Ngā mihi

Liz Wood – Principal