

You will be aware that we are moving to Alert level 2 at midnight tonight until midnight on Wednesday.

The key messages are:

- **School is open and students should attend, unless they are unwell or need to self-isolate due to a health concern or if they are waiting on a test result.**
- **You will be required to sign in on a contact tracing form if you enter a classroom or office space.**
- **Students will hand sanitise upon entering the room in the morning, after interval and after lunch. There will be extra emphasis placed on hand washing before eating.**
- **Students will try to have 1m distance from others.**
- **Parents ought to keep 2m apart from each other.**

THE WELCOME BACK PICNIC CANNOT BE HELD AT ALERT LEVEL 2.

Further information is provided below that was sent from the MOE immediately following the Prime Minister's press conference.

1. Schools are open to everyone, and all children must attend.

At Alert Level 2 the disease is contained but there is still risk of community transmission. It is safe for children and staff to attend school.

2. Learning will be onsite with distance learning offered in some circumstances.

Distance learning can be provided for those required to self-isolate, those individuals who health authorities have asked to stay away while waiting for a test result, or those choosing to remain at home because they are vulnerable to illness.

3. Schools are not classified as gatherings and a range of events and activities can go ahead.

For most day to day activities at schools, the rules for gatherings do not apply. [Under the COVID-19 Public Health Response Order](#), schools are exempted from physical distancing requirements when people are there to receive, provide, or support education services. However as soon as an event or activity brings people onsite who are not there for education purposes, including students, parents and caregivers, then the rules for gatherings do apply. This would include performances such as school plays, cultural events and sporting activities.

4. Face coverings are not required at school or on any school transport.

5. Sick people must stay at home.

6. We will have a contact tracing system in place.

Parents and carers entering classrooms and office spaces **MUST** sign in on the contact tracing form in each classroom or at the main office.

8. Fundamental public health measures continue to apply at every alert level:

- *Physical distancing (not touching and not breathing on each other at Alert Level 2)*
- *Hand hygiene*
- *Cough and sneeze etiquette*
- *Regularly cleaning and disinfecting high touch surfaces.*

Thank you in advance for your cooperation. Please contact friends to let them know, in case they do not check their email or if you know that a family does not have email. Thank you for texting them on my behalf.

*Bede Gilmore
Principal.*