



Kia tiki ake te pai
ACCENTUATING THE POSITIVE



Kia ora e te whānau. Greetings families

We are delighted that the announcement has been made to move to Alert Level 2. We look forward to reopening the school and welcoming all our children back. We will reopen on Monday 18 May.

At Alert Level 2, the Ministry of Education and Ministry of Health have assured us that school is a safe place to be. Minister Chris Hipkins reiterated recently that the government would not move to Alert Level 2, unless they had confidence that schools could be safely opened.

We want to reassure you that Rutherford Primary is safe. I want to outline some of the measures we have taken to ensure health and safety is a priority;

We have carried out extensive deep cleaning throughout the whole school.

We have implemented new procedures around hygiene and health and safety.

We will be implementing a learning program to teach children about good hygiene practices (reinforcing what they have already learnt).

We will be closely monitoring the wellness of staff and children.

We will continue to closely follow the advice of the Ministry of Health and The Ministry of Education.

Over the last two weeks, we have had the opportunity to test some of these measures and I am confident that we now have good plans in place.

We are expecting everyone who is well to be back at school at Alert Level 2. There will be new procedures for drop off and pick up. To help us plan for those, we need to know exactly which children will be returning.

Please complete the form below by Wednesday 13 May. If you notify us that your child is not returning at Alert Level 2, a member of the leadership team will be in contact to discuss how we can support you.

Please complete this form to let us know what your intentions are for your child/ren at Alert Level 2:
<https://forms.gle/uDFHtwZsGPkbHJB37>

School will be mostly the same but there will be some differences and some new procedures to follow. We will not rush back to classroom learning looking exactly like it did. Initially we will focus on settling the children back in. Our first priority will be well-being, followed by learning new procedures. It is important that everyone who can come attends in those first few weeks, so they can learn and practice the new procedures along with everyone else.

There is quite a lot of information to cover to outline the new procedures we will be following, so over the coming days I will send several pieces of information each dealing with a different procedure. This will hopefully give you time to digest each new process before we return to school next week. At the end of the week, I will send a summary of the new procedures.

Coming up in future correspondence will be information on pick up and drop off procedures, health and safety processes, and school activities and events.

If you have any questions, please contact me at amandab@rutherfordprimary.school.nz

Kia kaha - He waka eke noa

Nga mihi nui
Amanda Bennett
Acting Principal