



## TITAHI BAY SCHOOL - KURA KIDS are Believers and Achievers

*Kura Street, Titahi Bay, Porirua 5022 P O Box 50441, Porirua 5240 Phone: 04 236 8399*  
*website: [www.titahibay.school.nz](http://www.titahibay.school.nz) email: [office@titahibay.school.nz](mailto:office@titahibay.school.nz)*

8 May 2020

Kia ora koutou

Like us, we are sure you have followed with interest the announcements made by the Prime Minister. **Schools are likely to open on Monday the 18th of May at 9am if the government decides on Monday 11th May that New Zealand will move to Alert Level 2.** If this is the case, we will have our Teacher Only day on Thursday the 14<sup>th</sup> of May. There will be no online learning that day from school so children may work on the Ministry pack that was sent to them. On Friday the 15<sup>th</sup> of May, our staff will be in their classrooms setting up learning programs and online learning will continue.

It is reassuring to hear how well our country has done at minimising the impacts of COVID-19. Alert Levels 4 and 3 have not been easy and we thank you for your ongoing support for the work we are doing.

Today, the Prime Minister advised that in Alert Level 2 schools are safe environments for children, young people, and staff and that additional public health control measures are in place to prevent the spread of disease and to support contact tracing.

The good news is we are ready for our KURA kids to be back on our school site from **Monday 18<sup>th</sup> May**, but we will ask for some new ways of coming into school to drop off our KURA kids and pick them up at the end of the day. Kerry Delaney will send you a video on **Monday 11th May** so you know what to do.

The key Public Health approach is to minimise the risk that someone gets infected in the first place, and secondly to ensure we can identify and contact anyone who has been in close contact with a person if someone in a school is infected.

As we have done in Alert Level 3, you can be assured that in Alert Level 2 we will know who is at school, who our staff and students have been in close contact with and take appropriate measures to keep everyone safe.

Physical distancing is a good precaution to prevent the spread of disease. We do however know it is challenging in schools, so good hygiene practices and regular cleaning are even more important here. This includes staff and students coughing into their elbows, handwashing, drying, and regular cleaning of commonly touched surfaces.

**Under Alert Level 2, we advise any students and staff to stay at home if they are sick. We will send anyone home immediately if they show any symptoms.**

Our school has safe and sensible practices to maintain the health and safety of everyone on the school site. As described by Dr Payinda in his [NZ Herald article](#), “Covid's not measles or chickenpox, it doesn't hang in the air for hours waiting to infect passers-by. It travels on invisible drops of spit. You don't have to cross the street to avoid anyone. Just avoid getting in their '**moist breath' zone**”. We all just need to remember to have some breathing space at Alert Level 2!

It's important however that not just at school but at home, safe hygiene habits are practised by everyone, as this is essential to minimise the risk that someone gets infected with Covid-19.

For more information about the public health measures at Alert Level 2, you can visit the covid19.govt.nz website: <https://covid19.govt.nz/>

If you have any questions about our health and safety plan or have a child who might be vulnerable to serious illness and would like to discuss a plan for them, please contact Kerry.

Kerry sent an email out last week asking you to contact her or the office **if you are keeping your child/ren home at Level 2 as the school need to keep a register of names**. Please do this as it will help our office staff and teaching staff plan. Kerry has also been contacted about **some families wanting to slowly bring their KURA kids back into school. That is fine, all you need to do is either ring the office or email [kerry.delaney@titahibay.school.nz](mailto:kerry.delaney@titahibay.school.nz)** and let us know as this will save lots of time on Monday 18<sup>th</sup> as we won't need to contact your homes.

We will be in touch again soon to update you on our plans.

Ngā mihi

Kerry Delaney  
Principal

Sarah Campbell  
Board Chairperson