

# COVID-19 Update - 12 August 2020

Michael Harrison — Update to MSS Community

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COVID-19

Update

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The shift in alert levels announced by the Prime Minister last night was the last thing any of us wanted to hear. Thank you for the calm and sensible way you have responded to this latest news.

It is good to know we are prepared this time.

We have detailed below the information we currently have and procedures that were put in place from mid-day today.

# All of New Zealand Excluding Auckland Region

**Alert Level 2 Applies From Mid-day Today.**

**The Key Principles for Alert Level 2 Are to:**

- Reduce the risk of someone getting infected in the first place
- Ensure we can identify and contact anyone who becomes infected
- Understand that Level 2 is not business as usual.
- At Alert Level 2 we will continue to focus on: **enabling good hygiene practices** – regular washing and drying of hands and good cough and sneeze etiquette remain fundamental to preventing spread of illness such as colds, flu and COVID-19
- **ensuring people with COVID-19 symptoms stay away** from school
- **maintaining physical distancing where practicable** - in schools at Alert Level 2 this means children, young people, and staff maintaining a physical distance so that they are not breathing on or touching each other (there is no minimum distance requirement for schools at Alert Level 2)
- **keeping track of people that enter our school** – through our attendance registers, timetable and visitor register. This includes all visitors and parents who enter the site.

## Contact Tracing

**From Mid-day Today all parents and visitors to our school will be required to register as they enter the school grounds.** This will be required each time you want to enter our grounds. Please allow time to complete this requirement.

**At MSS** this can be done in one of the following ways:

- Using the **NZ COVID Tracer App** - scan the QR Code located outside the administration block and at the top of the Courtney Street walkway.

- **Using the Paper & Pen Form** located on a desk outside both the administration block and at the top of the Courtney Street walkway.

You could also arrange to meet your child outside the school gate.

### **At Alert Level 2:**

- **It is safe for all students, children and staff to attend school** and early learning.
- **Children and staff who are at higher-risk of severe illness** are encouraged to take additional precautions when leaving home.
- Please be alert to illness. **Do not send children to school if they are unwell.**
- Parents and caregivers of children presenting as unwell will be asked to collect their child from school and take them home.
- Good hand hygiene and cough and sneeze etiquette needs to be reinforced at home and school.
- Soap and water is very appropriate for washing hands.
- For schools, 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 1 metre can be used as a guide, particularly between adults.
- Physical distancing of 2 metres is recommended for parents and caregivers, from people they don't know (to align with public health measures outside the school grounds).
- Masks are not required at schools and early learning services at Alert levels 2 and 3.

## **Postponements & Cancellations**

- Junior Parents Information Meeting ('All About Reading') will be rescheduled.

- Friday Junior Assembly.
- Friday Sport.