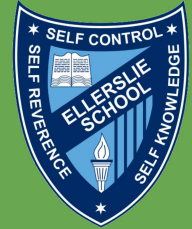


# ELLERSLIE SCHOOL

## Returning to School

### Term 4



**10 November 2021**

#### ***Tena koutou katoa Ellerslie whanau***

I hope this letter finds you and your whānau safe and well. The government has announced that we are able to welcome more tamariki back onsite under Alert Level 3 from next Wednesday 17 November. The staff are really excited by this and are looking forward to seeing more students back next week.

We know that learning kanohi ki te kanohi / face to face is the best option for children and young people. It's important for them to connect with their friends and teachers and it helps their social, physical and emotional wellbeing.

The details of how school will look from next Wednesday are currently being ironed out. What I can tell you is that if your child is already attending full time in 'bubble school' they will continue to. Even with the Delta variant, the risk of COVID-19 transmission in schools is low because of all the public health measures we will have in place. To ensure we can safely manage more students returning from next Wednesday we will:

- limit the number of tamariki and adults onsite, each day.
- keep those onsite in separate groups.
- ensure our classrooms/ pods are well ventilated.
- continue to practise physical distancing where possible.
- continue to practise effective hygiene measures.

In addition to this, all staff and children in Years 4 and above will be required to wear face coverings indoors (unless they have an exemption), and we'll ensure all staff who are on site are fully vaccinated or will have had had at least one dose of the vaccine and return a negative weekly test.

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.
- get advice from your doctor if you or your child has complex medical needs (and please get in touch so that we can support your child to return onsite, wherever possible).
- avoid having playdates inside with children from other families at Alert Level 3.

The details of the plan will be shared with the community by the end of the week. While we are doing all we can to cover all our bases, it will be impossible to fulfill everyone's needs and wants. The most important thing is that we get the students back with their teachers and friends for at least some of the days that are left in Term 4.

Ngā mihi nui,

Ngā mihi nui,  
Nick Butler - Principal  
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