



Tuesday 7th September 2021

RE: Returning back to school at COVID-19 Alert Level 2

Dear Parents and Caregivers

Firstly a HUGE THANK YOU for everything that you have done over the last few weeks. I know this has been an extremely busy time for you all, but you can be extremely proud of what you have achieved. Our kids are happy and we are all excited about them returning back to school.

Yesterday Prime Minister Jacinda Arden announced that schools will be open at Alert Level 2 from **Thursday 9th September.** We have now received the update on what this means.

We know there is a lot of information below, however, **we need you to read it all** and be ready to follow all the Health and Safety requirements of Alert Level 2 while it is in action. We have done this before successfully and we will do it again!

LEARNING TOMORROW

Only Bubble class children who are already registered can be at school tomorrow.

All **our other children will remain offsite** for one more day and return to school on Thursday 9th September.

As teachers will be returning onsite tomorrow to prepare for everyone's return there will be **no zoom classes tomorrow.** Teachers will instead send out learning for children digitally to do at home.

QUICK VISUAL REFERENCE

Alert Level 2 at Greytown School

<p>SCHOOL IS OPEN from Thursday 9th September.]</p> 	<p>If you are sick, stay at home! Ring the office to let them know.</p> 	<p>Wash your hands with soap or hand sanitiser regularly. Sneeze and cough into your elbow.</p> 
<p>Parents only go into classes if they need to (ie: to settle in a New Entrant child, a new child at school or your child is very unsettled.)</p> <p>BYE!</p> 	<p>Parents and families MUST sign in and scan in at the Tracing tables before coming on site.</p> 	<p>Parents and families who need to come on-site are required to maintain social distance 2m from others in the school grounds.</p> <p>KEEP YOUR DISTANCE</p> 
<p>School lunches on Wednesdays and Fridays will continue</p> 	<p>Primary School children and staff are not required to wear masks, however, it is up to your personal choice. If they do parents need to teach their child/ren how to wear and use their mask safely.</p> 	<p>Masks to be worn on public buses if children are over 12 and they are not required on school buses</p> <p>WEAR YOUR MASK</p> 

Screenshot

LOW RISK

The Ministries of Education and Health have classified schools at Level 2 as low risk in our region, however, we will still be very vigilant with all our systems.

We will have a higher level of hygiene practices in place eg: actively teaching, supervising and reminding children to wash hands before/after play/ entering and exiting a class, coughing into your elbow, wiping down high touch surfaces multiple times during the day, one child at a time in the toilet area, hand sanitizing, increased school cleaning systems etc

We will continue to work closely with the Ministries of Education and Health.

MASKS

Primary aged children and staff **are not required to wear masks** at school as schools are identified have been identified by the Ministry of Health as a low risk at this level.

- However, if you want your child to wear one then you are welcome to send them with one. You will need to teach them how to wear it safely and responsibly in order for it to be effective. Please refer to the Ministry of Health website for more information.

TRACKING TABLES - A MUST DO

- There will be 4 tracking tables that will once again be in action (Front gate, Hall, Room 3 entry and Room 9 gates).
- Parents or family members who need to come onsite need to use hand sanitiser and write their name and contact information down for our school records.
- At these stations, you will also be able to scan our Government COVID-tracking app QR Code for your personal tracking needs. (Download the free app on the Apps Store)

SOCIAL DISTANCING -PARENTS

- Try and arrange to drop off or pick up your child outside the school gates.
- If you do need to come on-site please do not gather outside classes in large groups - stay 2m apart and arrive just prior to bell times and leave straight away.

SOCIAL DISTANCING - CHILDREN AND STAFF

- There is no "1m or 2m" social distancing during the day for children and staff, as the Ministries of Education and Health realise that children will struggle in schools to adhere to this as they learn and play with each other.
- Social distancing for children and staff is staying out of immediate moist breath proximity and giving other's more "personal space".

CHILDREN UNWELL AND

- If your child is **unwell** with cold or flu-like symptoms then they need to **stay at home**. They can return once they are symptom-free.
- Any children who are showing cold or flu-like symptoms at school will be sent home so please ensure you have support at home if this is required.

EMERGENCY CONTACTS

- Please **update your details (phone number, addresses etc) and emergency contacts** if they have changed with the school office. If you are unsure please check these are correct. WE noticed in lockdown that several peoples details were not up to date.



You can ring 06 3049007 or email office@greytown.school.nz

ACCESS INTO CLASSES

At Alert Level 2 there will be limited access into classrooms for parents and families. Please avoid entering the class unless you are a parent of

- a New Entrant in Room 4 or 5
- a newly enrolled child starting school or
- Your child is upset and needs you to help settle them into the class.

This means that we can have greater control over hygiene in these classes.

SCHOOL BUSES

- School buses and local transport will be running in Level 2 with hygiene systems in place which will be set out by the bus company.
- Our bus controller will give drivers a list of children on the bus for contract tracing purposes.
- Children are not required to wear a mask on school buses, however, face coverings are required for children aged 12+ on public transport.

SCHOOL LUNCHES

School lunches will be available as normal on Wednesdays and Fridays, starting this week.

FINALLY

On behalf of our staff and Board of Trustees, we would like to thank our community for their support during this time and for helping us to keep our children and families as safe as possible.

Yours sincerely

Patrice O'Connor
Principal of Greytown School

Jane Cooper
Board Chairperson of Greytown School