

17 February 2021

Good afternoon everyone

I hope you have a good day, and that the children are managing their online programmes well. Thank you for the continuing positive messages and support for our staff. And thank you to the students too, who are responding so well to our teachers, who continue to impress me with their professionalism, commitment and imagination.

But there's nothing like face to face contact! You will be aware by now that Auckland will move alert levels tomorrow. From midnight tonight, we will be at Level 2, which means that we will be able to welcome students back into our school. We are delighted that the alert level has changed, of course, but we remain cautious, as always. This means that Level 2 at Pinehurst will have the same range of measures we had in place when we were at Level 2 last year. These include year and syndicate level bubbles, and we are once again asking everyone to wear masks.

Please note: we are expecting to ask everyone to wear masks and stay in bubbles for Thursday and Friday only, and we will review this at the weekend.

So, for tomorrow and Friday, the following procedures will apply. We will review these measures on Sunday and write home if we have any changes to make for Monday. The guidelines are also on our school website at <https://pinehurst.school.nz/life-at-pinehurst/covid-19-qa/>.

In the meantime, please read the rest of the email carefully, and I look forward to seeing the students again tomorrow!

Kind regards
Alex

Alert Level 2 – February 18th and 19th 2021

At Pinehurst, we operate slightly differently to other schools at Level 2. Our approach has always been a cautious one, as we want our community to have confidence in our health and safety measures. These help ensure that our attendance rates at Level 2 are amongst the best in Auckland.

The golden rule is, of course:

If a child or a member of staff, or a parent, is unwell, he or she must not come to school.

- All students are expected to attend school at Level 2. We will not be offering a **full** online programme at this level.

- If a student is required to self-isolate and cannot attend school, she or he will have an online programme that will enable him or her to work. This will be delivered through a combination of Seesaw, Schoolbox and Teams, depending on the age of the student and the work being set. **It is unlikely to include live lessons.**
- There will be no large-scale meetings or trips involving either significant travel or large numbers of students when we are at Level 2.

School organisation: students

- Student temperatures will be taken at the start of the school day in classrooms in College, and on entering the school grounds in Primary.
- We will have Year Group bubbles in College. The school rooming timetable will be changed to enable this. Students will also be restricted to specific areas of school at Interval and Lunchtime.
- We will have Syndicate Bubbles in Primary. Students will also be restricted to specific areas of school at Interval and Lunchtime.
- Before School Care and After School Care will run at their usual times: we will use P12 and P13 as additional rooms to keep syndicate bubbles in place.
- With the exception of the ballet classes in the dance studio, all outside providers will not be running classes.
- We will run some sports and music programmes at Level 2, but this will not involve competing against other schools.
- Each year group or syndicate will have its own toilets. Teachers will make sure that children know where they have to go.
- Students will be required to sanitise their hands on entry to every classroom, and we will wipe down desks after every lesson too.
- **Masks will be worn by all students from Year 4 upwards when they are moving around, or when they are not able to be at least 1 metre away from other students.**

School organisation: parents

- **Parents are not permitted anywhere in school other than the car park during the school day or before school.** The only exception to this is that Primary parents can pick up students up after school if they have signed in on the Covid app. They must not enter any rooms, though, at any time, and must be masked and observing physical distancing rules.
- **Parents will be able to make appointments to see staff and to come into Reception in the usual way, but they must observe physical distancing, wear masks and sign in on the Covid app.**
- Eyzylunch will be operating as usual, and the school tuck shop will operate as usual. Students in College will be able to move outside their year group bubbles to go to the tuck shop and then return. We will implement physical distancing at the tuck shop.
- Buses will be running as usual. Students must wear masks on the bus.

School organisation: staff

- All staff will be working at school in the usual way, but will need to observe social distancing requirements whenever possible.
- Primary class teachers will need to be in their classrooms between 8.15 am and 3.15 pm.
- College POD teachers and homeroom teachers will need to be in their classrooms between 8.30 am and 3.15 pm.
- All handwashing and other hygiene measures must be applied at all times by all staff.
- All staff will sign in and have their temperature taken in Reception every morning. Staff must sign out at Reception too. **They must do this before entering any school building.**
- There will be no large scale meetings at Level 2. These will be run on Microsoft Teams.
- All staff performing roles in high travel areas involving large numbers of students will wear gloves as well as masks.
- **Masks will be worn by all staff when they are moving around, or when they are not able to be at least 1 metre away from other people.**
- We will have additional staff on duty – this will include support staff, who will have a range of different roles at times.
- We will be teaching a full curriculum, and following (nearly) completely our usual timetable.
- We will have additional cleaning of surfaces and equipment (indoors and outdoors) during the day, and additional cleaning each evening. There will be more frequent cleaning of toilets.

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