



Tainui Full Primary School

Te Pikinga
Onwards and upwards
Kia Toa

Kia mau ki to mana
Hold steadfast to that which is yours
Moupiri tika tei rauka iakoe

Kia ora Parents/Whānau

COVID-19 (novel coronavirus)

Update - March 2020

As you are no doubt aware, cases of Coronavirus has now been confirmed in New Zealand. We are therefore bringing forward our usual 'flu-season' procedures to help avoid the spread of any infectious disease in our School Community.

Basic hygiene measures are the most important way to stop the spread of infectious disease, including the 2019 novel coronavirus (COVID-19). Basic hygiene measures include:

- hand hygiene – that is, washing hands regularly with soap and water, or cleansing with hand sanitiser
- staying at home if you are sick
- coughing or sneezing into a tissue or your elbow and then performing hand hygiene
- cleaning surfaces regularly.

Our teachers have been briefed in our infectious disease procedures and we have implemented the following in our classrooms:

- Use of hand sanitizer before eating and after using the bathrooms
- Wiping down of all tables with disinfectant at least once a day
- Tissues for every classroom
- Washing of hands using the following procedure (please reinforce this at home)

Hand Hygiene Procedure

- Wet hands, preferably with warm water and apply liquid soap
- Rub hands vigorously together and rub all areas
- Wash for 20 seconds (about the same time as it takes to sing Happy Birthday)
- Rinse well and dry hands thoroughly, the following examples are considered thorough:
 - 20 seconds by paper towel (2 towels 10 seconds on each towel)
 - 45 seconds by air dryer
 - 10 seconds by towel followed by 20 seconds by air dryer

Times when hands should be washed

- After coughing or sneezing (when the hands have been used to cover the mouth or nose)
- After using the toilet or after handling animals
- Before, during and after the preparation of food
- When hands are dirty
- More often if someone is sick

Please, if you or your child is sick keep them at home and seek medical advice. We have had a spike in tummy bugs over the last couple of weeks too. Please ensure you keep your child at home for 48hrs **after** their last vomit to help stop the spread.

If you have any of the symptoms associated with Coronavirus, or have recently been to a country or area of concern, or have been in close contact with someone confirmed with COVID-19, please telephone Healthline (for free) on 0800 358 5453 or your doctor immediately.

Symptoms include:

- fever
- coughing
- difficulty breathing



Symptoms of COVID-19 are similar to a range of other illnesses such as influenza. Difficulty breathing is a sign of possible pneumonia and requires immediate medical attention. Having any of these symptoms does not necessarily mean that you have COVID-19.

We don't yet know how long symptoms take to show after a person has been infected with Coronavirus, but current World Health Organization assessments suggest that it is 2–10 days.

For further information on Coronavirus please refer to the Ministry of Health Guidelines:

[Ministry of Health Guidelines - Coronavirus](#)

Your support in keeping your child at home if they are unwell is appreciated.

Many thanks
Tainui Full Primary School

Yours sincerely

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read 'T. Morrison', written in a cursive style.

Tania Morrison
Principal, Tainui Full Primary School