



# Mangatawhiri School COVID Newsletter



Unite  
against  
COVID-19

Friday 11<sup>th</sup> March 2022

Dear Parents & Community Members,  
Kia Ora Koutou Katoa,



**IMPORTANT**

This is the most up to date information as of today for OUR SCHOOL.

Our current numbers are:

Positive Active Case Numbers: 39

Close Contact Case Numbers: 28

Daily Zoom Check-in CHANGED:

From Monday 14<sup>th</sup> March our daily zoom check-in will move to 12.30pm each day for all students not at school who would like to connect.

Monday host: Mrs Vujcich  
Tuesday host: Miss Spence  
Wednesday host: Mrs McKinistry  
Thursday host: Mrs Millar  
Friday host: Miss Davis

The link for each day is the same:

- [12.30pm Daily Check in](#)

## CURRENT COVID ISOLATION CASES CHANGES:

From 11.59pm Friday 11 March, all cases and household contacts who are currently isolating can end their period of isolation after Day 7. Those currently in isolation will not have to complete their Days 8, 9 and 10 of isolation.

## NEW COVID CASES 7-DAY ISOLATION:

Anyone who tests positive for COVID-19 will be required to isolate for seven days. Day 0 is the day symptoms began or the day

the test was taken (whichever came first). Cases will isolate for a full seven days and are free to return to normal activities on Day 8, if they are not symptomatic.

## HOUSEHOLD CONTACTS:

Household contacts will be required to take a self-administered rapid antigen test (RAT) on Day 3 and Day 7 of the case's isolation period. If symptoms develop at any time during isolation:

- the usual advice remains in place to undertake an additional RAT
- if the test is negative and symptoms persist or worsen, test again 48 hours after that negative test
- if symptoms resolve there is no need for a further test until the required Day 7 test. If this is negative, they can return to daily life on Day 8.

If a household contact has new symptoms on the day of release:

- they should undertake an additional RAT and stay at home while unwell
- if that test is negative and symptoms persist or worsen, test again after 48 hours. If symptoms resolve, there is no need for a further test.

If a household contact has finished their period of isolation they do not need to return to isolation if a new case is identified in their household. However, **this only applies for a period of seven days** following their leaving isolation.

Should a new household member be confirmed as a case eight or more days after the household contact has left isolation, then they must start a new period of self-isolation for seven days.

**Mangatawhiri School 2022**

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As always, undertake a rapid antigen test (RAT) if symptomatic. If the RAT is negative and symptoms persist or worsen, you should test again 48 hours after the negative test. If symptoms resolve, there is no need for a further test.

### **ADVICE FOR ANYONE WHO IS UNWELL:**

- Anyone who is sick should stay home until they are well.
- When a child has respiratory symptoms, they should stay at home and seek advice from their GP or Healthline. Staying home is key to controlling the spread of **any** virus in a school setting.
- Many children will have a long-lasting runny nose or cough after viral infections. If it is over 10 days since the onset of COVID symptoms and they are no longer feeling unwell, they are very unlikely to be infectious and can therefore return to school.
- However, if they are continuing to feel unwell or their symptoms are worsening after 10 days, they should not return to school and a GP review, or a call to Healthline, is recommended.
- A reminder that principals at state schools have authority to preclude a student from attending if they believe, on reasonable grounds, that the student may have a communicable disease.

### **SYMPTOMS OF COVID 19:**

- A new or worsening cough
- Sneezing and runny nose
- A fever
- Temporary loss of smell or altered sense of taste
- Sore throat
- Shortness of breath

Less common symptoms include diarrhoea, headache, muscle aches, nausea, vomiting, chest pain, abdominal pain, joint pain, or confusion/irritability

For more information, go to [the Unite Against COVID-19 website](#).

### **RETURNING TO SCHOOL AFTER COVID:**

Students who test positive for COVID-19 are not required to self-isolate past seven days, but they shouldn't return to school if they are still feeling unwell.

Many children will have long lasting runny nose and cough after viral infections.

If it is over 10 days since the onset of the COVID infection and they are no longer feeling unwell, they are unlikely to be transmitting any active COVID infection and can return to school.

However, if they are continuing to feel unwell or their symptoms are worsening after 10 days then GP review is recommended.

### **WHAT ARE WE DOING AT SCHOOL:**

- We are staying open
- We are using public health measures to reduce the risk in our settings, including masks, physical distancing and ventilation
- We have appropriate cleaning procedures in place

We are getting through this but I am aware of the toll it is taking on families and staff. Thank you for all that you are doing to keep your families safe and those around you safe.

My sincere thanks to the staff at Mangatawhiri School who have worked tirelessly as a team to make each day at school count, to make connections for those students at home and to remain so positive in light of all that they face every day.

**Regards,**  
**Sharron Scouse**  
**PRINCIPAL**