



## **COVID-19/OMICRON UPDATE 5**

13th September 2022

Kia ora Parents and whānau,

You'll be aware that New Zealand will move to a new, long-term approach to COVID-19. These changes have been made based on public health advice and reflect high levels of immunity and declining case numbers across New Zealand.

This new approach will only result in minor changes to the way we operate. As of now the traffic light system no longer exists. The positive news is that household contacts of a person with COVID-19 do not need to isolate, but instead are asked to take a RAT test each day, for five days. Therefore, students who are household contacts but test negative and do not have COVID-19 symptoms, should continue to attend school. It is the best place for our students to be so they can be engaged and involved in their learning, and connected with their teachers and friends.

Masks are no longer compulsory for staff and students but if they choose to wear them then that is fine. All the other recommended public health measures will stay in place as we know they reduce the spread of infectious illnesses including COVID-19. These include ensuring our indoor spaces are well-ventilated, maintaining good hygiene practices, encouraging everyone to cough or sneeze into elbows and, most importantly, staying home and getting tested if they have COVID-19 symptoms.

Ngā mihi whānau for your continued support

Iain Taylor  
Principal