



COVID-19/OMICRON UPDATE 4

Friday 29th April 2022

Kia ora Parents and whānau

You will be aware that New Zealand has moved to Orange as part of the Covid response from the government.

The decision to move to Orange has been made on public health advice and reflects that we are moving past the peak of cases and our health system is able to cope. We are seeing that cases are declining due to high levels of vaccination and natural immunity after infection.

I wanted to give you an update on what the move to Orange means at Manurewa Intermediate.

At Orange, face masks are no longer required at school. However public health advice is that masks continue to be strongly encouraged when indoors. Wearing a mask is a key health measure that slows the spread of COVID-19 in indoor settings. For that reason, we ask that visitors to the school, including parents and whānau, wear a mask whenever they are indoors on school grounds.

We also ask that your child continues to bring a mask to school every day. There may be times that we'll ask them to wear a mask, too – for example, when we are having an assembly in the hall. If there are a high number of cases at school or in the community, we may ask that masks are worn in classrooms for a time. If staff or students wish to continue wearing masks at any time they are also able to.

At Orange, students aged 12 and above are still required to wear a face mask on school or public transport.

We will continue to keep all the other health measures in place at school that we know slow the spread of COVID-19. These include ensuring our indoor spaces are well-ventilated, maintaining good hand hygiene and cough and sneeze etiquette, appropriate physical distancing whenever we can and, most importantly, staying home if we are sick.

Term 2 will also see us going back to the one finishing time of 3.15pm for Monday, Wednesday, Thursday and Friday. Please be aware that Tuesday school finishes at 1.45pm (mentioned in our last school newsletter last term). We are also excited to say that after school sports training for various teams have started, as well as Period 6 (3.15pm-4.15pm) activities starting.

We are looking forward to a few less restrictions and returning to school life that is a bit closer to normal.

Ngā mihi

Iain Taylor
Principal