

Sunday 22 March 2020

Special Bulletin

Coronavirus (Covid-19) Update 6



MARANATHA
CHRISTIAN SCHOOL

Tēnā koutou

As shared with you in the school newsletter, the Covid-19 situation continues to change daily. Maranatha Christian School governance and leadership are working around the clock to ensure that the **necessary measures are being taken to keep our staff, students and community safe.**

If you missed the newsletter on Friday, here is the link...
<http://www.maranatha.school.nz/store/doc/2020Term1Week7.pub.pdf>

As you may be aware, the Government has created a 'level system' for the Covid-19 response (attached). As of this weekend, **our Government moved NZ to response Level 2.** It is clear that at the later levels, schools would be required to close.

It is a priority for staff to plan for the possibility that Maranatha is required to close so that your child/ren can **continue to receive a God-centred education, albeit in a distance learning situation.**

Response Level 2 asks for all people who are in the 'high risk' category (over 70 or with low or compromised immune system) **to self-isolate** at home. **This will impact a number of teachers, staff and students at school.** If you or your child/ren are in this category, we ask you to not attend school and take the advised precautions to keep well.

At this time, any absence will be recorded as justified.

Two members of staff are now in self-isolation as they have recently displayed some of the symptoms and have had **potential** contact with **unconfirmed** Covid-19 cases. As educators, these staff members will be prioritised for testing on Monday, with results expected to be available by Tuesday. Although we do not anticipate positive results, all precautions will be taken.

These precautions include the following decision, made this afternoon, by your Board of Trustees...

Monday and Tuesday this week will be Staff-Only Days (Please keep your children at home).

These staff only days will be used to...

- Develop the necessary plans for continuing learning if the school should close.
- Allow for the surfaces in the school to have additional deep cleaning.
- Provide assurance that those in self-isolation do not have Covid-19.

Before Maranatha Christian School resumes teaching on Wednesday, there will be additional precautions introduced to minimise contact and potential spread. **Information will be sent home in the next 'Special Bulletin'** on Tuesday.

However, **effective immediately, the school bus service has been stopped until further notice**, as we are unable to regulate contact and personal distancing on this service. We ask parents who use the bus service to make alternate arrangements from Wednesday. We do apologise for the inconvenience.

As always, please **continue to pray and be vigilant about stopping this virus from spreading.**

If you have any questions, please feel free to contact me or the school office.

In His love
Steve Farrand
Principal

Rohan Wong
BoT Chairperson

Rob Stentiford
MFB Chairperson