

Tēnā koutou Oaklynn school community - parents, whānau, carers and staff,

To be honest I was pleased to move into lock down earlier this week - as we felt it was the best way to keep our learners, their families and our staff safe. It had been a tough week or so as staff tried to navigate 'safe distancing' in our school.

Now - as we move into the lock down that Level 4 COVID -19 alert requires we are all beginning to find a new way of living in our 'bubbles' at home. I am aware that this may bring challenges for each of us.

## **1. THANK YOU**

I'd like to take this opportunity to **thank Oaklynn's amazing staff** - teachers, therapists, teacher aides and admin staff who came in to work on Tuesday to develop resources for families. Some resources were shared for learners via email and some were taken to families in packs - delivered to the door.

*Staff wanted to do everything they could to support families at home as we all move into this strange time of lock down.*

*It's been great to have contact already from families to say how much they have appreciated the packs.*

## **2. KEY MESSAGES** for our community are as follows:

### **Phase 1**

30 March - 14 April

*School holidays are being brought forward so that they are completed within the 4 week period. Holidays will now begin from Monday 30 March to Tuesday 14 April inclusive (a reminder that the Tuesday after Easter Monday is always a closed day for schools). Ministry of Education guidance.*

### **Phase 2**

15th April onwards

At the end of the school holidays, schools will be open for distance learning but **not physically open** to learners or staff to be at school.

*Please note the instruction to stay home (Alert Level 4) will continue beyond the new school holiday period but schools will be technically open for distance instruction. Teachers will be working offsite. Ministry of Education guidance.*

After the 15th April:

- Oaklynn staff will make plans as to how we are going to work from home to support all learners.
- Teachers will make contact with each family to talk about how that family would like to be supported as students stay at home.

I understand that this will be different for every family. The nature of our learners means that we cannot apply a blanket approach for learning online as other schools may be doing. **We will figure out what works for you and your learner.**

## **3. IMPORTANT INFORMATION**

Go to this link / web page [covid19.govt.nz](https://www.covid19.govt.nz) to find important information about COVID 19 if you need it

I have attached an information sheet to help everyone understand what COVID-19 Level 4 alert means.

I hope you and those nearest and dearest to you stay safe and well - take care of each other and as our Prime Minister Jacinda says - **'BE KIND'**

Ngā mihi nui  
Louise Doyle  
Principal

He aroha whakatō, he aroha ka puta mai.  
If kindness is sown, then kindness is what you shall receive.