

Friday 4th September 2020

Tēnā koutou parents, carers and whānau,

Thank you

Firstly we would all like to thank you for your ongoing support and collaboration with us at Oaklynn over the last week as we come out of the 'Learning from Home' phase and return to school. Our numbers of students returning are looking positive - we have had over 110 (of our 170) students on some days.

Please send your child or young person to school - schools are safe places to be.

The following Public Health measures all contribute to minimising spread of illness:

- Hand washing, good cough and sneeze etiquette
- Cleaning surfaces regularly
- Staying away if unwell
- Physical distancing from people you don't know AND

Face coverings as an extra protective physical barrier to help keep people safe.

First week back after Lockdown

At Oaklynn we have taken a **slightly more cautious approach** to returning to school. This week we have introduced the following measures to further protect our learners and community;

- Staff who are able to do their work from home have remained at home - reducing the numbers of staff in the administration / office areas.
- Reducing the numbers of visitors to the school and to each satellite class - therapists and senior leaders are only visiting one class in the week.
- Mask wearing - although not mandated in schools - we feel that anything we can do to minimise risk of transmission must be good for our learners and staff and their families. So we have asked and encouraged staff to wear masks to work.

MASK WEARING

The response from staff to this request has been outstanding!

Nearly all staff have worn masks in most situations - there have been a few exceptions and exemptions.

Note - we have NOT asked students to wear masks.

However our tamariki (children) and rangatahi (young adults) are really interested in masks and curious about them. Some of our learners at Green Bay High School have been making their own masks - both functional ones and also Lady Gaga inspired masks. After asking staff if they had any pictures of learners being curious about masks we received lots of photos - check out the pictures below. Stay safe at home and when out and about.

Have a lovely weekend

Ngā mihi nui

Louise Doyle
Principal



