



Community update 15/02/2022

Kia ora e te whānau

The health and wellbeing of our ākonga, staff and whānau are our top priority. Unfortunately Covid-19 has arrived in our Oaklynn community. Two of our satellite units have been affected by positive Covid-19 cases. We have been required to close both units and asked the affected staff, students and whānau to isolate. Thank you to these whānau and staff who have been so cooperative and understanding - your support at this time is deeply appreciated. Aroha mai whānau.

Now that we are moving into Phase 2 of Red Level there will begin to be more confirmed cases of Covid-19 within our Oaklynn school community. Please know that if you or your child has been classified as a close contact from school you will be contacted directly by either a senior leader or your child’s class teacher. Due to the increase in positive cases you may or may not directly hear from the Ministry of Health.

It is very important that if you or your child either has Covid-19 or is classified as a close contact from outside of school that you isolate, get tested and notify your class teacher/senior leader as soon as possible so that we can try to limit the spread of Covid-19 in our school community.

If you or your child does have Covid-19 there are some questions that we will need to ask to establish the infectious period. It’s very important that we work together on this. Once we have closed a unit, it will remain closed for a 7 day period. You will be notified when we are ready to re-open.

For your information we have included infectious period details below:

If the person is symptomatic	The infectious period is 48 hours before symptoms begin
If the person is asymptomatic	The infectious period is 48 hours prior to the first positive test date

All Oaklynn staff are working hard to mitigate the spread of Covid-19 within our school community. I have attached Red Level health measures overview below. If you have any concerns or questions please feel free to contact me on pilar.romero@oaklynn.school.nz

Ngā mihi mahana,

Pilar Romero

Pilar Romero
Acting Principal

An overview of health measures for returning to school

Red level “Schools and kura are open for onsite learning for all students.”

We are expecting all ākonga and staff to return to school unless advised not to by a medical professional.

Health Measure / Risk	Detail
Children with complex medical needs and/or not vaccinated	Parents, whānau, carers are recommended to seek advice from their health professional about whether it is safe and appropriate for their child / young person to attend school on site.
Vaccinations	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> - All staff are fully vaccinated (2 doses of vaccine) - Booster vaccines are now mandated by MOE for all school staff - All learners are encouraged to be vaccinated
Face coverings	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> - All staff are now mandated to wear approved masks. The Ministry of Education will provide masks for school staff. - Must be worn by learners aged 8 years and over. - There will be learners that are unable to wear masks due to their medical condition or sensory needs. We will support families to get exemptions if required. - There will be some staff who have a mask exemption.
Physical distancing	<p>There is no physical distancing required for within groups (staff and learners). Distancing between groups / staff is 1 metre when indoors.</p> <p>At Oaklynn we regard ‘groups’ as</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Classes in a satellite / local school - Base School classes as a whole group - OakTEC as a whole group
Ventilation	<p>Classes will be checked for good ventilation and CO2 levels.</p> <p>Oklynn has been already prioritised to receive the ventilation kits so we can start our testing as soon as they arrive.</p>
Visitors	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> - No non-essential visitors on site - Parents are to drop off children and young people at the gate / door - please do not come into classrooms. - All essential visitors must wear a mask - Sign in and scan QR code for all settings
Staff across settings	<p>Staff working across settings will continue to work as usual. This includes:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Outreach teachers - Therapists will be in classes - Specialist teachers - Arts and PE <p>This may be reviewed at any stage in the term.</p>
Feeling unwell	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Staff and learners must stay at home if they are unwell and have any of the COVID symptoms - Staff may call parents, whānau, carers to collect their child if they see any of these symptoms of concern

	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> - If you have any of these symptoms, contact your doctor, - Contact Healthline on 0800 358 5453 or your iwi health provider. <p><u>Symptoms can include one or more of the following:</u></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - a new or worsening cough - sneezing and runny nose - a fever - temporary loss of smell or altered sense of taste - sore throat - shortness of breath <p><u>Less common symptoms may include:</u></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - diarrhoea - headache - muscle pain or body aches - nausea - vomiting - malaise — a general feeling of discomfort, illness or unease - chest pain - abdominal pain - joint pain - confusion or irritability
<p>When there is an OMICRON outbreak</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Guidance will be provided by Ministry of Health and Ministry of Education which Oaklynn senior leadership will follow - Classes or the school may close if and when staffing absences (due to COVID) reach a level where the class or school is unsafe to operate - This decision will be made by the Acting Principal and the Board of Trustees
<p>Cases of COVID</p>	<p><u>Close Contacts</u></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Household members of a case are Close Contacts. - Other people who are identified as Close Contacts may live, work or have been in the same place at the same time as someone who is infectious with COVID-19. For example, they may have travelled on a plane, stayed over at the house or sat near someone at work who is a positive COVID-19 case. - Call this number if you have any concerns: COVID HEALTH ADVICE 0800 358 5453
<p>Learners at home because of COVID</p>	<p>There may be periods of time where learners are at home;</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - either due to the need to self isolate or if the class has closed because of unsafe staffing levels <p>Learning from Home resources will be provided to support learners - however these may not take the form of live Zoom sessions as in Level 3 last year.</p>
<p>Whānau isolating at home</p>	<p>Families self-isolating who need extra support can call: COVID Welfare Phone Line on 0800 512 337 - open seven days a week. MSD will connect callers with someone – who may be from a local community organisation, a government agency or from marae-based services or support that iwi have established.</p>

