

Community update 22/03/2022

Kia ora e te whānau

We are pleased to inform you that as we monitor the numbers of cases within our school community - we seem to be decreasing in cases for the moment. This does not mean that we can celebrate too quickly, but it means that we are “weathering the storm” very well. This is only due to the great supportive collaborative effort between school and you at home. Thank you for your support. Thank you for being aware of when to keep your young person home and for how long; for being available to pick your young person up (when they present as unwell at school); for following our communications sent out weekly with this community update, fortnightly through our school newsletter, regular emails or personal contact. Together we are stronger. We are doing well because of our connected effort.

In regard to continuing to monitor confirmed Covid cases within our community - you can now access daily updates on cases in school locations on our newly **relaunched website**: <https://www.oaklynn.school.nz/> You will also find links to online learning options; backdated newsletters; and comprehensive information about Oaklynn school - who we are and what we do. We are excited to have a better informed online profile now available to our community.

Just a reminder that, for those who are registered, there is our **Vaccination Clinic** starting from 10 a.m tomorrow. We look forward to seeing those of you who have joined up to receive a vaccination or a booster for members of your whānau. This is another initiative that supports us to remain strong within these difficult times.

Finally, we would like to alert you to an opportunity to have your say in regards to what is termed by the Ministry of Education as a “highest need review”; which is a review of our diverse learners who require specialist support to meet their educational needs and goals. Please join the conversation here: <https://conversation.education.govt.nz/conversations/highest-needs-review/>

This review is being conducted by Hon Jan Tinetti (Associate Minister of Education). The content of her letter is copied below.

If you have any further concerns or questions please feel free to contact me on pilar.romero@oaklynn.school.nz

Ngā mihi mahana,

Pilar Romero

Pilar Romero
Acting Principal

Tēnā koe

Highest Needs Review

The Government is committed to ensuring all children and young people can access high-quality education and receive the support they need to succeed in education. It is important that education supports are designed so that the potential of all our children can be fully realised, which is at the heart of what whānau and kaiako strive for every day.

In October 2021, I announced a review of the services provided to learners with the highest learning needs. The Review's online portal is now live and will remain open until 31 March 2022.

The purpose of the review is to ensure that these children and young people, and their families, whānau and aiga, receive the right learning support they need, when they need it, and for as long as they need it. The education journey of children and young people, from early learning to leaving secondary school, falls within the scope of the Review.

Children and young people are our taonga, and it is essential we include their opinions and those of their families, whānau and aiga, as well as teachers, support staff, education leaders and school boards. We want as many people as possible to know about the Highest Needs Review so they can engage and share their opinions on how we can improve and change the services provided to children and young people, within scope of the review.

Having been an educator for 30 years, I know how difficult it can be to navigate the system. This is why I am really keen to hear from you as school leaders, teachers and support staff, and I strongly encourage you to have your say at

<https://conversation.education.govt.nz/conversations/highest-needs-review/>