



12-16 Gemstone Drive, Birchville
Upper Hutt 5018
www.birchville.school.nz
Phone: (04) 526 7128

Dear Whānau

I am sure you have all seen the latest news and we will be making adjustments for this at school from Monday

Ministry Information:

High risk individuals:

While the majority of people who are confirmed with COVID-19 will experience mild to moderate symptoms, some individuals are at risk of more severe symptoms.

Older people, particularly those with pre-existing health problems are more likely to get severe illness and are therefore considered at risk. High risk individuals also include people with underlying medical conditions, such as:

- *a compromised immune system*
- *liver disease*
- *cancer*
- *kidney disease*
- *heart disease*
- *diabetes mellitus*

So this means that Jarod Summers will now be working from home on Monday. He will continue to plan for the week and send out learning activities to his groups of learners as much as possible. This will also give us a good idea of what this could look like should schools close completely.

We ask that if you have older friends and whānau collecting or dropping off your children to school, you make alternative arrangements where possible.

Children that suffer from asthmatic conditions are also asked to remain at home from Monday. Please can you inform the office of this and we will endeavor to get work sent home over the next few days. Office email: office@birchville.school.nz Office phone number: 04 526 7128

At the moment Tori Reynolds is not well with a cold so she may remain at home if she is not feeling any better by Monday. We ask that if your child has a cold or cough that you also keep them at home until they are completely well again. We will contact you to collect children that are unwell.

We are likely to be down on staff and Cherie and I will go into class from Monday too. Please understand that we will do our best to keep things as calm and normal as possible over the next few weeks.

Please continue to wash hands often, practice social distancing and talk calmly and positively with your children to help them understand what is going on around them.

Staff and children will be discouraged from cuddles and high fives for the next while - although we know that children need to feel cared for, especially when this has become such a serious and ongoing issue, but we do need to limit contact as much as possible.

Please can parents not go behind the counter in the office area or into the sick room unless their own child is in there. No parents in the staffroom too please.

Kia Kaha everyone

Remember part of our vision is "Ako ki te aroha" This is a perfect time for us to show as much love and compassion as possible at the moment.

Ngā mihi

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read 'Robyn Brown', written in a cursive style.

Robyn Brown
Principal

