

Let me start by thanking all of you for the positivity and support shown at Birchville school in this first week of distance learning. I am very proud of what the teachers have prepared and what the children are doing from home with your support.

Yesterday's announcement has clarified things for us going into Level 3. We are preparing the school for reentry for tamariki and kaiako. **For the entirety of level 3 the school is closed to all whānau and/or visitors.**



Step	Dates
Principals and school staff can access site	Tuesday 21 April
Site preparation, including cleaning, maintenance, floorplans and logistical management of health and safety requirements	Tuesday 21 April to Tuesday 28 April.
First day at Alert Level 3 Teacher/Staff Only Day - no students at school	Tuesday 28 April
First Day that tamariki can attend school if required	Wednesday 29 April

What does this mean for parents?

- School will be open for children whose families are **unable** to supervise them at home (we expect this to be predominantly essential workers who have not been able to make further arrangements to support their children through expanding their bubbles, or those who are no longer able to work from home themselves and have not been able to make further arrangements to support their children through expanding their bubbles).
- There will be no before or after school care provided during level 3.
- School hours are 9.00am to 3.00pm

What does this mean for students?

- Children who remain home will continue their Anywhere Learning programmes.
- Children who come to school will complete the same Anywhere Learning tasks and activities as their friends who are learning from home. They will be guided through these activities by teachers able to attend school and supported by some of our teacher aides.

What will classes look like?

- Our teachers that are in school will continue Anywhere Learning programmes for those at home
- Children at school will work together in one learning space
- If we have multiple classes, it is likely that interactions between classes will be limited, with staggered break times, pick up and drop off time etc to allow us to protect the size of your extended bubble. Children from the same family will be in the same bubble class space.

Government guidelines for level 3:

- Schools will be open for children up to and including Year 10
- Physical attendance of children at schools is voluntary. **If there is a parent or caregiver available to look after children at home and if children have access to distance learning, children and young people are encouraged to continue learning at home.**
- Children should be kept in their own bubbles where possible to limit exposure between children
- Children and staff who are at greater risk are asked to stay at home
- Any child or staff member who is sick must remain at home.
- Any educational facilities connected to a confirmed or probable case of COVID-19 must close on an individual or group basis for 72 hours to allow contact tracing, and then potentially for a further 14 days.

Our teachers and staff are dealing with all of the same challenges as you, whether it be their own vulnerable status, at risk family members or caring for dependents at home. For us to plan for on-site staff numbers at alert level 3, we need

your help. Please use the [attached Google form](#) to provide us with an indication of how many children will require supervision on site. If you are not able to access this form please contact the school via email office@birchville.school.nz with the following information:

- Child/rens name and Last name
- Will continue learning at home or
- Will attend school from Wednesday 29th April 2020

Kia ora for your amazing support - we are nearly through this whānau. If we stay strong over the next few weeks and continue to be vigilant, we could be having a huge "back to school" party in the near future.

Kia Kaha whānau,

Aroha nui
Robyn