



SPECIAL FLYER

NGĀ TUMUAKI O AOTEAROA

THE MOST RESPECTED AND INFLUENTIAL ADVOCATE FOR NEW ZEALAND'S PRINCIPALS

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Coronavirus Advice

Kia ora e te whānau

I hope you have had a relaxing summer and indulged in plenty of adventurous fun over the break. I will introduce myself properly in the first *Principal Matters* publication, which you will get later in the week. First, however, I want to alert you to advice on **Coronavirus**.

Several principals have been in touch with me already seeking advice about this virus and how to identify and contain it to prevent its spread through our schools.

I contacted the Ministry with these concerns and subsequently, the Secretary for Education issued very clear advice to schools late yesterday. This advice includes links to Ministry of Health advice and all can be accessed here:

<http://education.govt.nz/news/novel-coronavirus/>

I have been assured that principals will continue to have access to the latest advice on how we should respond to the virus through the link above.

As self-governing entities you bear the responsibility for the wellbeing of your students and staff and while you should be measured in your approach, it is important that decisions you make regarding the implementation of advice is localised in your community and reflects what is important to you at this time. It would be a good idea to take this opportunity to review your school pandemic action plan, ensure it is fit-for-purpose and that staff and students know how to avoid the spread of communicable diseases.

If you are expecting students who are at risk of already being exposed to the virus, you might keep these students away from school for the incubation period. That's a decision for you and your Board.

I will be back with more news later in the week.

Ngā manaakitanga

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