

28th January, 2022



Kia tupu ai ēnei kākano hei rakau nui  
May these tender seedlings grow into mighty trees

Kia ora koutou,

Nga mihi o Te tau hau.

We can't wait to welcome the tamariki back to school next Thursday 3rd February. The staff are feeling refreshed and have been busy preparing and planning for the 2022 school year ahead.

**Info in this email about:**

- **Open Classes Tuesday 1st February, 2:30 - 4pm**
- **Covid Protection Framework (CPF) - Red** (please make sure we have your up to date contact information)
- **Getting ready to return to school**

**Open Classes - Meet your Teacher: Tuesday 1st February, 2:30 - 4pm**

Teachers are very keen for you and your child to have the opportunity to visit your child's classroom, to meet the teacher and to drop off any stationery this Tuesday. We would like to offer you the opportunity to visit the class they will be learning in during the year. In order to make this work under the current RED settings please:

- *Scan on entry to school (QR sign at every gate)*
- *Ensure all adults and Year 4, 5, 6 children and above are wearing masks*
- *We are asking that there are no more than 6 people (plus the teacher) in the classroom space at any one time. Please wait outside until there are less people inside and then enter the classroom*
- *Always keep a 1 metre distance from other families while in the classroom*
- *Please hand sanitise before entering the classroom*

**Covid Protection Framework (CPF) - Red**

In regard to the COVID Protection Framework please find attached 'key information' outlining our measures to help protect everyone in our school community. Our processes are based on the current information we have to date under the Covid Protection Framework (CPF). Our goal - to keep everyone healthy :) Upper Hutt School welcomes every child to school and children are not required to provide any evidence of vaccination status. We are pleased that at the Red setting, we are able to support everyone with learning onsite. We will work with families to develop a plan for offsite learning for those who are advised to remain at home.

The attached sheet provides detailed information. However the short version of changes at RED are:

**Masks are required:**

- for all ākonga Years 4 and up when indoors or in close contact with others (children in Year 3 and 4 composite classes will be asked to wear masks). They must be the type that attaches to the head either through an ear loop or a head loop
- for all staff, volunteers and visitors to the school (medical grade required for staff)

### **Three Bubbles:**

- While we are essentially one large group at school, we have created three “bubbles” that align with our hubs - **kākano, Mahuri and Rākau**. We aim to stay within our bubbles for school work, play, along with staff interaction to minimise points of contact throughout the day.

### **Ventilation:**

- All classrooms will have doors and windows open for air circulation, and will take advantage of our summer and ensure opportunities each day for outdoor learning and activities.

### **Sickness:**

- If your child is unwell, please keep them home and abide by government guidelines. If your child becomes unwell at school we will assess and may contact you to collect your child.
- If we have a suspected positive COVID-19 case at school, we will follow detailed public health guidelines to identify close or casual contacts of any suspected or confirmed cases. It is unlikely that the school will close, however your child/class/hub may be asked to stay home while assessments are undertaken.

### **Gate Drop Off/ Collection:**

- We will continue with our gate drop off and pick up of children for years 2 - 6. Bell for the end of day will ring at 3pm. Parents please socially distance at gates and wear your masks.
- **Year 1** parents and caregivers may drop off at classroom doors but are not able to enter rooms.
- **New Entrant** parents/caregivers may enter the classroom, but may only do this through the gates on the corner of Blenheim and Brown Streets. Masks must be worn and all visitors must scan in.
- If parents need to come into the school grounds, please scan in and wear a mask.

When the Government makes any changes to the framework we will provide you with updates that are required in the school setting. If you would like further COVID information please refer to the <https://covid19.govt.nz/>.

In order to make sure we can quickly contact families with key information about the framework or if there is a suspected/ confirmed case at school, please ensure your contact details we have on file are up to date. Please email the office if your contact details have changed [admin@upperhutt.school.nz](mailto:admin@upperhutt.school.nz)

### **Getting ready to return to school**

The Ministry of Education has some helpful information on their [Parents and Whānau website](#) to support your tamariki to get back to school. Things may feel a little different under RED, so let's work together to support your child to start the 2022 school year. The website also has important reminders about how you can [take care of yourself](#) too.

We look forward to seeing those of you that can come and visit our Open Classes on Tuesday afternoon and welcome everyone back to school on Thursday.

Ngā mihi nui,

Jo Grant

Principal/ Tumuaiki