



MELVILLE

INTERMEDIATE SCHOOL

14/10/21

Kia ora Parents and Caregivers,

We hope this finds you all well. As you know, the government made the early decision to shift the Waikato to Alert Level 3 while health authorities quickly tracked down contacts, tested and isolated confirmed cases of COVID-19 in our community. Yesterday, Minister Hipkins confirmed we will remain at this level for a further five days until **11.59pm Monday 18 October**.

Monday, 18th October, was of course scheduled to be the first day of Term 4. Following the Minister's announcement, the majority of students will not be attending school on that day. We are open on Monday only for the small number of children whose parents need to go to work and have no available options for childcare. All our usual safety precautions for Alert Level 3 will be in place, which include following all the recommendations from the public health experts.

We will continue to support all children who remain learning from home, through our distance-learning programme, our teachers will be in contact with their students through Google classroom on Monday.

While we know how difficult it is trying to work from home as well as support your child's learning, please keep your child at home if there is an appropriate carer available. For those of you with no other option, we look forward to seeing your child at school next week. The Ministry of Education has set down strict guidelines to maintain the safety of children who need to be at school and this requires us to undertake considerable preparation. It is important that you notify us of your intention to send your child to school on Monday by emailing:

dcooke@melvilleintermediate.school.nz by Friday 15th October at 3pm

We are proud of how our community has responded to this outbreak, but the mahi isn't yet done. Please continue to follow all the alert level requirements including staying at home, getting tested for COVID-19 if you are feeling unwell, and for your own sake and for the health of your whānau, please get vaccinated. I have included some [information about vaccinations](#) to support decision-making. We will update you regarding our data collection system for vaccinations at a later date.

These are the very best things we can do to keep our community as safe as possible and get everyone back to school.

Ngā mihi,

David Cooke

Principal