

Friday 15th October, 2021

**Letter regarding school for Monday 18th October due to current Alert Levels**

Good morning Tahuna School families,

Tahuna School is currently in a tricky staffing situation due to the current Waikato Alert Levels and adhering to health measures to reduce the potential spread of the delta virus. We have 4 teaching staff and the principal who reside in Waikato AL3. The MOE's advice is that it is extremely unlikely that the Director-General of Health will approve staff crossing the boundary, and this may even have to be a Cabinet decision. As a result we only have a small number of staff who reside in Waikato AL2 who will be able to supervise. According to the ministry, if a school is faced with the situation where they won't have enough staff to safely operate with all or most students onsite, the school's board will need to decide how they will provide learning.

**We strongly encourage families who are able to supervise their child/ren to remain at home on Monday the 18th October and do distance learning.** If you do require your child or children to attend school there will be supervision but at a very small capacity.

**All children who reside in AL3 need to remain at home and do distance learning until their place of residence is back in AL2.**

On Monday the 18th October, the Government is to make the announcement on the Waikato Alert Level. If the decision is to move down to Alert Level 2, then Tahuna School will open as normal under the level health measures on Tuesday the 19th October. If we remain in Alert Level 3 we will continue distance learning and the Board will meet to plan and prepare the next steps for Tahuna School in accordance with advice from the Ministry of Health and Ministry of Education.

To give us an indication of how many children we are expecting to have at school on Monday please let us know ASAP by the end of today by replying to SchoolStream OR alternatively emailing Mr Otto at [principal@tahunaschool.school.nz](mailto:principal@tahunaschool.school.nz)

We don't take this decision lightly but we believe out of the best interest of safety for our children, staff and community and MOH/MOE advise we need to do this.

Livestock Day will proceed if lockdown is not further extended. We will keep in touch with future developments.

Thanks for your support.  
Phillip Otto