

Covid-19

Alert Level 3.1

Term 4 Reopening Campus to Students



- Only eligible staff, students, and contractors with permission from the principal are allowed onsite
- This plan aligns with directives from the Public Health Orders and Ministry of Education

In Alert Level 3 (Delta), there is an extensive range of mitigating measures that will help to prevent spread of illness, including COVID-19. These include:

- Staying home if you are unwell and seeking advice about getting tested.
- Maintaining good hand hygiene and cough and sneeze etiquette.
- Keeping physically distanced as much as practicable.
- Keeping classrooms well ventilated.
- Maintaining a two-metre distance from others when outside.
- Well-established record keeping.

Existing Alert Level 3 Requirements that will Continue

There are an extensive range of health requirements and measures at Alert Level 3 that will remain in place:

- staff and children who are unwell must stay at home, and get tested for COVID-19
- children at higher risk of severe illness remain home, where possible
- staff who are not fully vaccinated and at higher risk of severe illness must remain home
- mandatory mask wearing for staff and students in Years 9 to 13
- only essential visitors will be permitted onsite and all visitors onsite will need to wear a face covering
- good hand hygiene and cough and sneeze etiquette
- classrooms to be well ventilated
- high touch surfaces will be cleaned and disinfected each day
- physical distancing will be adhered to wherever practicable, particularly between adults
- physical distancing of two metres will be in place from people you don't know
- QR code posters for the COVID app will be displayed
- a contact tracing register in place for everyone coming onsite including students and staff, through the attendance register, timetable and visitor register.

Good Hygiene Practices

- Face masks are **mandatory for all personnel** when onsite.
- Good hygiene practices must be adhered to, i.e. regular washing and drying of hands, and good cough and sneeze etiquette remain fundamental to preventing spread of illness such as colds, flu and COVID-19.
- Hand Sanitiser will be provided in reception areas and in each classroom. We highly recommend you also have your own for personal use.

Some additional public health measures were agreed by Cabinet on Monday 11 October:

- Face coverings will be required on school transport for people aged 12 and over.
- Time outdoors for students and staff will be maximised, including breaks, lunchtime, before and after school (unless the weather does not allow), and rooms will be aired during breaks.
- Exercising and singing will take place outdoors.
- Groups meeting indoors, including assemblies or staff meetings, will be avoided.
- Exams can go ahead but physical distancing will be maximised within the space available with a minimum of 1.5 metres between desks.

Ventilation of Classrooms

- As per the Governments guidelines, the fastest and easiest way to ventilate any room is by opening the windows, doors, and any vents.
- It's good practice to keep the windows open all day (where possible), not just during breaks.
- Designated staff (eg Whānau Leader for Ground Level and HOLA/HOD for Level 2) are to open doors and windows before school, and check all doors and windows are closed after school in support of the 'bed down' process.
- If for any reason the windows don't open, please notify Ross or Diedre.

Covid-19 Symptoms / Unwell Persons

- People with COVID-19 symptoms or who are unwell in any way must stay away from school.

Contact Tracing

- All staff must sign in using the QR code.
- All visitors, including contractors, must sign in using the QR code and BDSC tracking register at our main reception.
- We will also keep track of students onsite through our attendance system (KAMAR).

Cleaning Protocols

- Regular school wide cleaning schedule is undertaken by commercial cleaners

Information about the COVID-19 Required Testing Order

The Testing Order applies to regions in **Alert Level 3 only**. This coverage may be subject to change pending Cabinet decisions in the future.

Find the COVID-19 Public Health Response (Required Testing) Amendment Order (No 4) 2021 [here](#).

What the requirements are and who they apply to:

The testing requirements are:

- Provide evidence of an initial negative COVID-19 test that has been administered within the last five days prior to returning to work on site (regardless of vaccination status).
- After this initial test, provide a negative COVID-19 test every seven days until they have received two injections of the vaccine.
- Evidence of your Covid test result to be emailed to principal@bdsc.school.nz.

The testing requirements apply to:

- Every employee (including Principals) of every school (including Kura and private schools) regardless of their role.
- Every person performing any work or service onsite at a school, early learning service, or hostel, that has not been operating during Alert Level 3 (including volunteers or unpaid workers) who may have contact with students in the course of performing their work or service.

Mandatory Vaccination

All staff members and workers who may have contact with children and students will be required to have a first dose of the COVID-19 vaccine by 15 November 2021 and be fully vaccinated by 1 January 2022. Evidence of your vaccination status to be emailed to principal@bdsc.school.nz.

Where possible, staff are encouraged to be tested and book vaccinations outside of regular working hours.

From 1 January 2022, only those that are fully vaccinated will be able to be onsite and provide services. This includes volunteers, learning support specialists, and Initial Teacher Education students on practicum.

Testing:

Everyone working onsite (regardless of vaccination status) will be required to return a negative COVID-19 result ahead of returning physically to a school. Preferably the test will be done within 72 hours of returning to school, but up to five days before will suffice. Evidence of a negative test must be sent to principal@bdsc.school.nz.

All staff members must have returned an initial negative test in order to return to work.

When a region is at Alert Level 3, follow-up tests will be required on a weekly basis for all staff who are not fully vaccinated. Weekly testing for COVID-19 will be required if the school is in an Alert Level 3 region and if the staff member is not fully vaccinated.

Staff will not be required to isolate after their follow-up tests unless they are:

- Experiencing COVID-19 symptoms.
- A casual plus contact.
- A close contact who is experiencing COVID-19 symptoms.
- A household member of a close contact.
- A household member of a close contact who is experiencing COVID-19 symptoms.

Once a staff member becomes fully vaccinated, regular testing will **no longer be required** for them to continue to work onsite.

Face Coverings

- All students and staff must wear a mask, unless they provide written evidence of an exemption from a medical professional. This must be emailed to principal@bdsc.school.nz.
- Students and staff are responsible for supplying their own masks.

Staff Kitchen and Kitchenettes (Whanau and Faculty)

- Please bring and use your own cup and take it home to wash. There will be some disposal cups available in the staffroom.
- Please endeavour to provide your own eating utensils, plates, bowls, and wash these at home.

Confirmed Case of Covid-19 at School

- The college will close for cleaning and contact tracing if there is a confirmed case who was infectious when at school.
- The college will work closely with the Director of Education and health authorities should this occur.
- The school will contact the Ministry regional office if we hear of a confirmed case in our school community but have not been advised about it by health officials.

Please note: Students and staff who do not uphold the mandatory requirements of the public health order will be referred to the Principal.