

**Tauraroa Area School**  
**Special Newsletter - 2 September 2021**

Kia ora koutou,

With Northland moving to lockdown Level 3, Tauraroa Area School will be open to accept students on campus from Monday, 6 September who:

- are in Years 1-10
- have parents or caregivers who are essential workers *and*
- have no other childcare arrangements available to them.

Students who attend school will have access to usual bus services and will be kept in a school 'bubble' of no more than ten students. It is important that we know who is planning to attend so that we can organise teaching spaces, supervising teachers and bus transport.

Thank you to those who have notified us that their children will be attending. If you have not done this, please email [andy.mouat@tauraroa.school.nz](mailto:andy.mouat@tauraroa.school.nz) to allow arrangements to be completed.

We will be following all protocols set out by the Ministry of Health and Ministry of Education. Facemasks will not be required.

### NCEA News

External NCEA examinations have been postponed for two weeks and will now run 22 November to 14 December. This will mean a change in our plans for school prize giving and other events. We will keep you informed. There are also changes in dates for NCEA portfolio submissions and other assessment tasks. Teachers will let students know about these.

Our own school senior exams will take place in Week 2 of term 4, 26-29 October. To minimise disruption, these will run without study leave.

The Level 1 MCAT (Mathematics Common Assessment Task) assessment has been moved to 28 September.

### Student wellbeing

If you have concerns about your child's wellbeing at this time, please contact their whanau roopu or homeroom teacher, or our school counsellor [anna.pascoe@tauraroa.school.nz](mailto:anna.pascoe@tauraroa.school.nz) . Help is also available online through the Tai Tokerau Directory of Wellbeing Services and Resources – Hauora Kotahitanga <https://www.northlandwellbeing.org.nz/>

### A message from the board of trustees

*This level 4 hasn't been the same as last time. We all need to continue to practice our resilience for whatever the next few levels look like and whatever "normal" becomes in future.*

*While a move to level 3 is a good step, there won't be much that changes for the majority of our whanau. I'd encourage everyone to stay safe in their bubbles and continue to follow COVID restriction guidelines. I look forward to the day I can master wearing a mask and glasses at work, without these fogging up! To the whanau struggling with home based learning - stick with it!*

*To students: keep working through your schedules and planning for the time you can return to classes which aren't virtual.*

*To our teaching teams, support staff and SMT - keep doing what you are doing. Those of us trying to conduct school learning from our lounges thank you for the inspiration and assistance you provide. I'll now return to my lounge that has become a fort city, my kitchen that is in the midst of a baking cookies experiment (that's science right?!) and I'm pretty sure folding laundry counts as mathematic equations?!*

*Take care and Kia Kaha.*

*Rachel Mason  
Board chair*

I am very grateful for the work being done by our teaching staff at this time, as they meet the challenges of these unusual times. In coming days, we will be distributing more 'hard pack' resources as required and depending on the likely length of the Level 3 lockdown.

I wish to express my thanks for the support you are giving to your children's ongoing learning at this challenging time.

Naku noa, na,

Grant Burns  
Principal