



Rangiora High School



Whakautea
RESPECT



Tohaina
CONTRIBUTE



Wawatahia
ASPIRE

Tangata ako ana i te whare, te turanga ki te marae, tau ana
A person who is taught at home, will stand collected on the marae

A child who learns values at home and is cherished within their family, will not only behave well amongst the family but also within society and throughout their life.

Newsletter to parents/caregivers/whānau/akonga

7 September 2021

Kia ora koutou,

You'll be aware that all of New Zealand (with the exception of Auckland) is moving to Alert Level 2 from midnight tonight. Our thoughts and positive wishes are with everyone in Tāmaki Makaurau / Auckland.

Extensive wastewater testing and the numbers of people getting tested across the country has given the Government confidence that it is safe to allow a shift down to Alert Level 2 across most of New Zealand.

We are really looking forward to welcoming everyone back onsite on Thursday morning. Tomorrow (Wednesday) we will be continuing to support the ākonga who have been onsite at Alert Level 3 while we prepare for re-opening to all on Thursday 8 September at 8.40am. Buses will run at the usual times.

At Alert Level 2 there is low risk of community transmission and it provides us with a lot more opportunities to engage and connect with others. However, there are still a number of public health requirements we all need to follow. Please continue to monitor your health and do not send your children to school if they are not well (and please seek advice about getting a COVID test).

For us, all the required safety precautions for Alert Level 2 will be in place which include following all the recommendations from the public health experts. This means we will regularly clean and disinfect high-touch surfaces, encourage everyone to frequently wash their hands and cough and sneeze into their elbow.

While physical distancing is not a requirement in schools, we will be doing our best to keep students from congregating in very large numbers and keeping spaces well-ventilated.

Face coverings are not required to be worn in school. The Director General of Health has recommended that young people aged 12 years+ wear a face covering at school – The decision to wear a face covering is up to you and your whānau, whatever your decision it will be respected.

If you are not sure what all the rules are for alert level 2 when you are out and about, then the following information may be useful to you:

- [COVID-19 Alert Levels summary table](#)
- [COVID-19 Alert Levels detailed table](#)

Return to School on Thursday 8 September:

School Buses

- School buses will run as normal from Thursday 8 September. Again, it is strongly recommended that young people wear a face covering on the bus.

Wānanga at 8.40am

- Students are asked to meet with their wānanga teacher at 8.40am [in these rooms](#) - note, some rooms are altered as wānanga does not usually all run at the same time.
- Students can access their timetable by signing in to the [website Portal](#) - then selecting Details, then Attendance. Please note a module changeover for Year 9 and 10 students occurred yesterday.
- We will run all five lessons each day, from Thursday.

Other Updates:

Senior Derived Grade Exams

- The school's senior Derived Grade Exams will no longer run in week 8 and they will have a different format this year.
- **Timing:** Wed 22 Sep - Fri 24 Sep (end week 9) and Mon 27 Sep - Wed 29 Sep (start week 10).
- Due to time spent out of school in Alert Levels 3 and 4 there will be no study leave during exam week. All levels attend school each day as usual.
- The school day will be re-organised so that every class has a double period each morning over the six days. Teachers can use this for an exam slot or an extended workshop time.
- Any subjects that require a three hour exam can use one of their other lessons in the six days.
- Exams may run in normal classrooms OR a different examination room. We aim to have all Year 11 students experience at least one examination in the school hall. Exam seating will be distanced in line with NZQA guidelines.
- A few students have school trips and block courses already timetabled in the new examination week. They will be allocated an alternative session in which to do their exam.

Event Cancellations

- Mufti Day (10 Sep) - cancelled
- Hillary House fundraiser (22-23 Sep) - postponed, may yet be cancelled
- Battle of the Bands (24 Sep) - cancelled
- Year 12 Semi-Formal (25 Sep) cancelled, as date is now in the middle of new Derived Grade Exams
- End-of-term House Assemblies (28 Sep) - cancelled
- Fashion Revolution Show (30 Sep) - cancelled

Prizegivings - Revised Dates

- Thursday 18 November, 7.00pm = Year 11-12 Prizegiving in School Hall
- Friday 3 December, 7.00pm = Year 13 Graduation at James Hay Theatre, Christchurch
- Wednesday 8 December, 7.00pm = Year 9-10 Prizegiving in School Hall

Sport and Cultural Colours

- Applications are now open.
- Please direct your child(ren) to the Rangiora High School website and click the 'News and Events' tab to find the link to submit a nomination. Applications close on Sunday 12 September so we would appreciate you letting your child know as soon as possible.
- To be eligible to apply for Colours you need to **represent Rangiora High School** in a Sport or Cultural event/activity, criteria is 2+ years and be a significant part of that team/activity. There are also school values and other criteria that are taken into account by the Colours Committee.
- If you know of any students who have made a NZ team, won a NZ title, etc. outside of school and have competed this year, late last year or were selected but unable to compete due to COVID here or overseas, please ask them to visit the Sports Office at school.

Please don't hesitate to contact your child's wānanga kaiako, Head of House or Dean if there is something you need assistance with. See you Thursday!

Karen Stewart

Principal / Tumuaki