



THURSDAY 24TH February UPDATE



COVID 19 NEWSTEAD SCHOOL COMMUNITY

MESSAGE

Greetings Newstead Parents & Caregivers,

Today it was announced that NZ has now moved to **PHASE 3 RED LEVEL** COVID Response Plan.

WHAT DOES THIS MEAN NOW FOR NEWSTEAD STUDENTS & FAMILIES?

1. **ONLY Household Members** of a positive case are now required to isolate for 10 days.
2. If your child is asymptomatic and no one in your family has tested positive then your child(ren) can return to school from tomorrow (Friday 25th Feb).
3. If there is a positive case reported to the school in your child's class then we will continue to notify you that your child has been identified as a Close Contact. BUT classmates no longer need to isolate at home. This notification is just so you are **informed** and **can monitor** your own child(ren) for potential symptoms.
4. If any member of your household tests positive the whole whaanau is required to stay at home for 10 days and then children are able to return to school if they are symptom free.
5. RAT tests are now able to be accepted by school as confirmation of positive or negative results.

WHAT TO EXPECT OVER THE COMING WEEKS AT NEWSTEAD SCHOOL:

1.	Newstead School will remain open for onsite teaching and learning over the coming weeks. <ul style="list-style-type: none">○ Masks are your child's best protection from catching or spreading Omicron in the classroom.○ If a child tests positive and they were wearing a mask at school, none of their classmates or teachers will be considered a Close Contact now.
2.	Please continue to inform us via email to the office office@newstead.school.nz if your child has tested as positive or if your child is isolating for 10 days as a Close Contact Household Member.
3.	We may be in a position in the coming weeks where we need to merge groups of students in

	order to provide learning supervision at school.
4.	<p>If we are in a position where we do not have enough teaching staff, relievers or Teacher Aides who are asymptomatic or who are able to be on site to supervise your children we will notify you by email.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> In this unfortunate situation our Hybrid Learning Programme will need to be activated and your child(ren) will be provided with a Hard Copy Learning Pack to work on at home, as well as have online teaching and learning opportunities & activities offered whenever possible.
5.	If your child has been isolating at home already, please send them back to school tomorrow with their Hard Copy Pack if they are asymptomatic.

I want to acknowledge that we are all in challenging, anxious times. It's predicted that we are going to have lots more Omicron cases to come before the end of the term. All of the Newstead students and their families who have had COVID to date, have had mild symptoms and made healthy recoveries. I sincerely hope that this is the situation we will all continue to experience.

Please be aware that you will be contacted if your child displays any symptoms while at school, it is expected that you will come to collect them as soon as possible. We realise this may cause an inconvenience for you but please respect that we are following Ministry of Health and Ministry of Education directions for everyone's health & safety.

Thank you in advance for your continued support for the staff, Admin & Leadership team & BOT at Newstead as we all navigate these fast changing times together.

Stay Safe, Kia kaha!

Nga mihi

Meg Campbell

Principal



KEEP UP TO DATE AS OUR SCHOOL SITUATION CHANGES

Please watch out for this message on our Newstead Facebook Page to alert you that there is **important new information** for you to read.

Information will be communicated with you that is relevant to different class groups via email and seesaw.