



"Maa mahi,
ka ora"



Matamata
College

CONTACT NEWSLETTER
Wednesday 8 September 2021

Kia ora Matamata College Community



We are really looking forward to welcoming everyone back onsite on **Thursday 9 September—Day 6**. The day will begin with a Group Class at 8.45am for students. Thursdays from then on, in Level 2, will follow Wednesday times. (9am start with P1).

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 do 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).

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.

Mask Use

Face coverings are not required to be worn in school. The decision to wear a face covering is up to you and your whaanau, whatever your decision it will be respected. Where an individual chooses to use a face covering they should supply and wear their own, and do so safely.



Bus Services



Buses will run as normal during Alert Level 2. Masks are not required on school transport.

For Track and trace purposes we have been working with the community and Go Bus to make sure that our bus lists are up to date and that school's lists of students on buses are up to date.

We appreciate that at Level 2 parents may choose to arrange other methods to get their children to school. This is encouraged if you are worried about the lack of physical distancing on school buses. If you choose to drive your child to school, we ask that you use Bedford Park as the safe drop-off and pick-up zone to avoid congestion at the front of the school.

Attendance

Stay home if sick and let office know. If students are showing signs of illness, you will be rung to collect them.

Visitors on Site

For the safety of our staff and student body we ask that parents and visitors do not come into the school grounds unless it is totally necessary. If you do, you will be expected to sign in and out and follow our Health and Safety Guidelines.

While the school office staff will be working the school offices are essentially closed for all but non-contact interactions.

Cleaning and Hygiene

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.

*Ms Faye Mathews
Acting Principal*



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So what will school look like at Level 2?

- Mask wearing is recommended indoors but not mandatory.
- Gatherings of no more than 50 people can be held indoors.
- Gatherings of no more than 100 people can be held outside.
- Students will use sanitizer on entry to classrooms and must wash hands and/or use sanitizer at the beginning and end of practical lessons.
- Doors will be kept open to avoid unnecessary contact with door handles etc and ventilate the classrooms.
- Students are encouraged to layer up their school uniform as classrooms will be well ventilated.
- There will be a thorough clean at the end of each day by our cleaners.
- Students are asked to stay left in corridors and stairwells when moving about the school.
- Students, where possible, will be asked to use designated entry and exit points to buildings.
- There will be no assemblies.
- Once on site no student is to leave school during the day. The exception being Year 13 students who may leave if they have no further scheduled classes and can travel home safely once they have signed out.
- The Canteen will be open.
- Students are asked to bring a 'named' drink bottle for their use only and are not to use drinking fountains.
- Students are asked to bring their own devices, pens and other resources to school and are not to share with others.
- Online support will continue for those students who have to continue to self-isolate but, it will be in the form of activities posted on TEAMS OneNote and there will be no video or online chat support.

Contact Information

- First point of call → contact your group teacher
- Concerned about your specialist subject → contact your subject teacher
- Personal concerns about progress or achievement → contact your group teacher or subject teacher
- Concerned about your wellbeing → contact your Dean
- If you are already working with our Guidance Counsellor please continue to do so remotely via email: ml@matcol.nz
- Concerned about your health contact Healthline:

COVID 19 health advice 0800 358 5453

General health advice & information 0800 611 116

Always Remember our "Core 4" School Values

As you will note this is not business as usual. The protocols are in place for everyone's safety. The onus is very clearly on the individuals to do the right thing. Students need to follow the guidelines and direction of staff and behave in a safe and responsible manner. Just as the country has done throughout COVID-19, we expect our students will rise to this challenge.

TE WHAKAUTE RESPECT

"We uphold our mana"



NGAAKAU TAPATAHI INTEGRITY

"We do what's right even when no one is looking"



MANAAKITANGA CARING

"We care and look after ourselves, others, and our environment"



TE KAWENGA RESPONSIBILITY

"We meet expectations and take ownership of our actions"



Our Mission Statement: Quality Education for All

Concerned about your health contact Healthline: - COVID 19 related 0800 358 545
- General Health related 0800 611 116