



Browns Bay School

EFFORT BRINGS REWARD

January 31st 2020

Dear Parent/Caregiver
Kia Ora

Re. Novel coronavirus

This is a follow-up letter to the one that was sent out on January 28th.

I would like to acknowledge the parents who have contacted the school about voluntarily delaying the start to the school year for 14 days. We really appreciate your support in this situation.

The advice from the Ministry of Education in my first newsletter was that if any student or staff have recently returned from China at any point in the last two weeks or have been in close contact with someone confirmed with the virus you are asked to not return to school for 14 days and voluntarily stay away. This has been amended to people who have been in Wuhan or Hubei province.

The Ministry of Health website provides practical information

[Novel coronavirus \(2019-nCoV\) guidance – Ministry of Health](#)

We will be reminding students to follow the basic principles of hygiene and cough etiquette to reduce the risk of getting an infection or passing it onto others. This includes:

- regularly washing hands (for at least 20 seconds with warm water and soap and dry thoroughly)
- covering your mouth and nose when you sneeze
- staying home if you are sick

All teachers and staff will be fully briefed on the situation, and able to offer clear advice to students.

The virus has now been made a notifiable disease which means the Principal can send students home if they are showing symptoms of a communicable disease. The student has to stay away for the infectious period of the disease. The current guidelines are if you have a **temperature of 38°C or higher** and **one or more** of the following **symptoms**:

- | | |
|------------------------|---------------------------------------|
| • ongoing coughing | • bruising or bleeding without injury |
| • difficulty breathing | • looking obviously unwell |
| • ongoing diarrhoea | • confusion |
| • ongoing vomiting | • skin rash. |

Please contact me if you have any questions or concerns at all.

Regards

Peter Mulcahy
PRINCIPAL