

# ***RAUMATI BEACH SCHOOL***

3 February 2020

Dear Parents & Guardians,

## **RE: NOVEL CORONAVIRUS**

I am writing to update you on our schools response to the Coronavirus and pass on the relevant information which has been provided to us by the Ministry of Education.

At this time there is no confirmed case of the virus in New Zealand. However the Ministry of Health continues to regularly review the risk levels and will modify its advice as necessary.

At this stage there are no substantive changes to the advice Health is providing and to that which we have given you previously through Facebook.

Health's response is based on quality information and data they are receiving from multiple international sources. New Zealand's current and planned preparedness and response activities for novel coronavirus are all consistent with advice from WHO.

The Ministry of Education are working closely with the Ministry of Health as part of a multiagency response at several different levels.

The MOE will continue to send us Special Bulletins as the situation changes, to ensure you receive new information as quickly as possible.

## **Advice from RBS**

Anyone who is unwell should not be at school. If you have a particular concern about your child, please contact Healthline at 0800 611 116 or your GP for medical advice.

Healthline has translators and interpreters available 24/7 in 150 languages including Mandarin and Cantonese.

The incubation period is up to 14 days.

For child who may be at high risk of exposure because they have travelled recently to Wuhan or Hubei province in China or have been in close contact with someone confirmed with the virus, we ask you to delay the start of their school year for 14 days and stay home. (We are not aware of any student who has travelled to mainland China during the holiday break.)

If your child attends school while showing symptoms, they will be asked to return home by the school.

We have reviewed our planning and our hygiene requirements.

In terms of keeping yourself and your family well, the Ministry of Health suggests the following:

- 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
- avoiding close contact with anyone with cold or flu-like symptoms
- if you feel unwell you should avoid public gatherings and events.

If any further information is given to us from the MOE we will pass this on through Facebook, newsletter and email. Please ensure that the office have your email and that you have joined the Raumati Beach School Facebook page.

Again it is very important that anyone who is unwell should not be at school. If you have a particular concern about your child, please contact Healthline at 0800 611 116 or your GP for medical advice.

Regards,

Mike Farrelly  
Principal.