



11 November 2021

Kia ora koutou

Following on from last night's letter around returning to school next week, I'd like to update you with an overview of our current returning to school plan:

Friday 12th and Monday 15th November: online teaching continues

Tuesday 16th November: Staff will be back on site so this will be a **teacher only day**.

Teachers will set up students with self-directed tasks on Monday. Staff have a lot to discuss and process, as well as preparing their classrooms after a long time away from them. Those students who have been in the bubble or who need to attend may do so and will be supervised.

Wednesday 17th November: Students to return to school on alternating days, starting with Year 8's on Wednesday 17th then the Year 7's on Thursday 18th. We have scheduled this until 26th November and will review and communicate any changes ASAP.

Our initial focus will be on the basics - routines, relationships and reassurance.

- The school day structure will remain the same, with school starting at 8.45am. At the end of the day we will dismiss pedestrian/cycle/scooter/parent pick up students at 2.50pm and bus students at 3pm to allow for distancing
- School buses will be operating as per normal. Masks need to be worn on buses
- Our lunch service will unfortunately not be available
- Students should bring their own labelled drink bottle which they can fill at the water fountains
- Students will need to bring their own mask which they must wear inside at all times.
- All of our staff for next week are double vaccinated and will have returned a negative Covid-19 test within 5 days of returning – our staff have been fabulous with this.
- Teachers and support staff are working with students to surface and address any returning to school concerns

We've looked at a range of options and, in consultation with a range of stakeholders including teachers, team leaders and parent representatives have settled on this plan which provides structure and safety.

Thank you to those of you who have already let us know that your child will not be returning to school next week. For students who are remaining at home full-time when school resumes on site they will be coordinated by our Learning Support Coordinator, Mrs Alyce Keith. Please email Alyce directly on alycek@ni.school.nz if we have not already been notified.

Thanks also to those whose children need to attend every day. Please let me know if you haven't already done so.

We have a range of circumstances which we are working to accommodate.

Please also remember this plan may change and will evolve. For now it gives us a stable and safe map forward.

As always, should you have any questions or concerns, please feel free to contact me directly on principal@ni.school.nz

The transition back to school is complex – and I thank you for your support.

Best regards,

Phil

A handwritten signature in black ink, consisting of stylized, overlapping loops and a long horizontal stroke at the end, representing the name Phil Muir.

Phil Muir

Proud Principal of Northcote Intermediate School