



23/08/21

Dear parents and whānau,

As we move into a new week, Covid Alert Level 4 Lockdown is still with us. Please forgive the long email, but please read it all! I want to keep you updated without sending you too many individual emails!

### **Learning In Lockdown**

Our wonderful teachers have spent time putting together a learning plan for their class. While the plan is individualised by year group and class, we maintain a programme of learning for each child. Each child will have multiple chances each week for a virtual meeting with the teacher, these could be the whole class, smaller groups, videos or individual, depending on the class plan. Some of these could be opt in chances for assistance as well.

The children can contact their teacher for help with their learning between 9am and 2pm each day. If you have any additional questions, they can be emailed to the teacher, where they will be dealt with in accordance with our communication policy.

We are trying to give learning options for about two and a half hours a day. This allows the children some creative time, time to go outside or just read a book. There are plenty of offline ideas in the learning grids as well, to ensure the learning is not all screen time. **Remember, the learning we give is optional for you to decide what works for you and your family, if you wish for your child to do more or less, that is your call!** If they can at least keep in touch through a meeting with their teacher, we would appreciate it. Our aim is not to put stress on your family. Your child will not regress if they only do some of it! It is important they spend time on other things too, playing an instrument, practising dances, playing catch with you, baking or just spending time as a family. The learning pattern of your class will continue through the lockdown and I will provide further information regarding the learning when levels change.

### **Devices**

While most children have access to a device for learning, we understand not every child does. The Ministry of Education **DO NOT** provide devices for our children. This is down to the school to do. The devices that are loaned out are the school's own devices, and all the work around the distribution is completed by us.

I am happy to loan devices for the period of lockdown (until we return to Covid Alert Level 2 or lower) to support the learning. The devices are ipads in year 1,2 and 3, and chromebooks in years 4-6. However the device must be returned as soon as your child is back on site as these are from our school owned limited supply. At Covid Alert Level 4 the Ministry has granted an exception for me to go onto site to organise these devices. However I am only able to do this for a very limited time period.

- The window for picking up a device is between 2pm and 4pm on Tuesday.
- **Only pre-organised devices can be picked up.**
- **A device must be requested before 9am on Tuesday morning, requests after this time cannot be fulfilled. Please send a request to me via email on [principal@greenhithe.school.nz](mailto:principal@greenhithe.school.nz), please include your full name, mobile number, address, child's full name and class. I am unable to loan a device without this information included in the email request!**

### **Enrolments**

We are currently looking at our staffing ratios for 2022. If you have an enrolment for 2022 in year 0/1 please contact the office ([office@greenhithe.school.nz](mailto:office@greenhithe.school.nz)). The pupil numbers decide the number of staff we can maintain. With this in mind the Board have decided to take very limited out of zone enrolments for 2022 in year 0/1 (estimated at 15 places) and year 5 (estimated at 12 places). These numbers allow us to maintain our staffing levels. Over the next week the details of how to apply and the process will appear on our school website (<https://www.greenhithe.school.nz/enrolment>).

### **School Site**

**The school site is completely closed.** Please remember that the school, playground and school grounds remain closed at Covid Alert Level 4. I may be on site sorting devices, but it will only be me, under a strict dispensation from the Ministry of Education. No one else is allowed on the site and we have put up signage and ensured the gates have been locked.

We appreciate the lockdown scenario is stressful on the whole community, especially as there are several locations of interest on the North Shore. Please ensure that you are looking after yourselves and families. Once the lockdown is lifted and school opens again, we will be here to support the transition back to 'normal learning'.

Kia Kaha

Ngā mihi  
Stephen Grady  
Principal  
Greenhithe School