

12/10/21

Dear parents and caregivers,

Unfortunately we are unable to reopen as we hoped on 18th October and we will be continuing with online learning. Our Level 3 Delta protocols continue and there is **NO CHANGE** to any criteria for attending onsite bubbles, meaning we aren't expecting any additional students. While we know how difficult it is trying to work from home, as well as support your child's learning, please keep your child at home if there is an appropriate carer available.

With Delta Level 3 Greenhithe School remains closed for almost all students. We will only be open for those who have no adult at home to look after the child. This means if you are working from home OR have another adult, such as a grandparent living in the home, your child MUST remain at home.

Your child's teacher has been working hard to continue the distance learning activities for the period that the school is closed, and therefore the children will continue with the online learning they were engaged in last term. Your child's teacher will provide information regarding the learning programme for your child's specific class over the next few days.

Level 3 Reminders

- The school is only open for those children of essential workers who do not have anyone at home to provide care. Please email the office by **Thursday 14th October, 1pm** if your child has to attend one of the bubbles, so we have the correct number of teachers on site to look after the children (office@greenhithe.school.nz). **Those children of essential workers can come into school from 8.50am onwards**, and go directly to their bubble classroom where they will be greeted by their bubble teacher. We cannot accept any children after this date, as to provide any additional capacity will take time with organising staff and classrooms as well as meeting the new testing requirements.
- Each parent of a child coming into the bubble will receive specific health and safety information to ensure the teachers and children remain safe in their time at school. This email will also state what equipment and resources the child should bring to ensure the least physical contact we can. You can also assist everyone's safety by keeping your child at home if they are feeling unwell and please do contact your GP or Healthline, to seek advice about getting tested. If your child shows any symptoms, we will be isolating them and calling you to collect them.
- **The school site is closed**, this includes the playgrounds, fields and courts. If you need to contact the school, please email the office, as visitors are unable to enter the school site (office@greenhithe.school.nz).

Our bubbles continue to only be for 10 children, as has been specified by the Government. This is one of the reasons that if you have an adult at home, you must keep your child at home. We only have limited spaces that are suitable for a bubble, limited staff and therefore limited places, with the reduced bubble sizes halving our capacity. Our staff on-site will also have been tested for COVID-19 before they get back to work.

We will be continuing to ensure the teaching staff will remain at home to ensure the online learning is maintained for every class. This also helps to ensure that when we reopen for all children, our teachers will be ready. Therefore, none of the bubbles will be taken by our full time classroom teachers. Instead our part time teachers, non class based staff and regular relieving teachers will supervise the bubbles, *these will be different teachers from the last bubbles*. The children who have to come in will be fully supported online by their class teacher, as every student will be. If they are on site the children will simply be completing their online learning in the school setting. There is not an additional programme, except one or two activities for when the children complete their online learning.

As a school we are here to fully support our parents and families who need us to be here at Covid Alert Level 3, for when they have **no one at home to supervise** the children, so they are able to go out to work in and around our community.

We truly value your support of our school. Our staff miss the children and the community engagement. I assure you we have a robust plan for managing our school at the different alert levels, with the delta variant in mind. When we are back in the classroom, we will welcome our children back and teach from where they are, as we always do and have become expert at, after several of these lockdown transitions between distance and on-site learning.

Please look after yourselves and your families, we look forward to welcoming everyone back as soon as we are allowed. I will update you as information is given to us on the reopening of school and the impact on any term 4 activities and events.

Kia kaha whānau
Stephen Grady
Principal