



"Together We Can Do It"

P.O.BOX 16 MOKAU 4350 * 067529733 PH * admin@mokau.school.nz

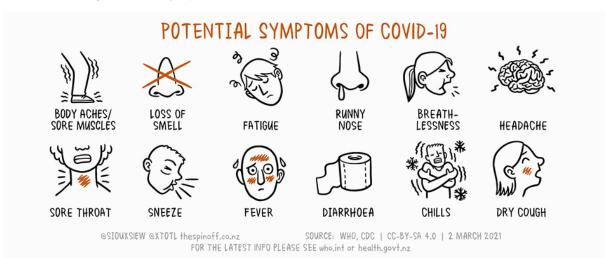
Kia ora koutou,

New Zealand's COVID-19 response continues amid much larger numbers of daily cases.

You may well have seen the headlines in the media about the numbers of cases being seen in schools. Please don't be alarmed by this. It is only natural as cases in our community increase, they will appear in our school. We have really good systems in place to respond to this and to keep any spread of the virus – should it appear – to a minimum.

This is why we remain open at Red. It's great for a child's wellbeing and learning to be at school with their friends and school staff, and we have very good systems in place to keep everyone as safe as possible.

Your job remains the same, too: please continue to keep a really close watch of your whānau for anyone with symptoms.



If unwell, please stay at home and get advice about getting a COVID-19 test. Please make sure you can be contacted should we need to send a child home who is unwell. This helps us keep the school open and protect the vulnerable members of our school community.

With Phase 3 of the Omicron response, the key change is that it is only confirmed cases and their household contacts who need to self-isolate. Everyone else, including those who may have had close contact with the case but aren't in the household, must continue to monitor really closely for any symptoms of COVID-19.

Rapid antigen tests (RATs) are now being used to diagnose COVID-19 as well as PCR tests. This means that you will get an almost immediate test result back if a RAT is used.

If anyone in your family is confirmed as having COVID-19, you will be asked to notify your close contacts yourself. Please get in touch with us as soon as you can if your child has tested positive for COVID-19.

Finally, we know how hard the impacts on COVID-19 have been for many families in New Zealand. If you know of a family in your community who is struggling, please encourage them to reach out for support for example to access food, medicine, or access financial support: <u>Help is available – COVID-19 Health Hub</u>. If you have any concerns about sending your child to school or need any support, please do get in touch. We are here to help.

Aku mihi,

Maryann Symonds, Tumuaki/Principal