

23rd August 2021



Ahiahī pai Staff,

Like me, you probably looked at the emerging cases from this outbreak and thought that it was too early to reduce the Alert Level. The Prime Minister has made the right decision at this time to protect us all. Therefore, we will remain at Alert Level 4 until **11.59 pm next Tuesday, 31 August.**

We are familiar with how staying at home can help this situation. Please support each other to keep safe and to look after our colleagues and students. Margaret has introduced a lockdown buddy system for us. I encourage everyone to make sure that we all maintain connection throughout the coming days with our staff buddy. Going forward, we will continue to have our twice weekly staff briefings (Monday and Thursday 8.20 am), and HODs will continue to connect with their departments regularly too. If you feel isolated, please reach out.

All students, junior and senior, who requested a laptop have been provided with one. This means that as a teaching community we can provide quality teaching and learning interactions with our ākongā at this time. Over the past 18 months, we have all become highly capable of using technology to get the best out of our learners. I have every confidence in our ability to continue doing so. There is so much expertise on staff, if unsure of any IT capability, there are others to support us. Reach out if required.

We are aware that both staff and students may feel pressure around NCEA as it is now mid-Term 3. Our derived grade examinations, and MCAT, are currently scheduled for Week 8 and while this is currently unchanged, please be mindful that changes might occur. If there are any alterations made around NCEA by NZQA we will let you know immediately. NZQA are keeping abreast of NZ's response in this time of uncertainty. Additionally, if you are completing any internal assessment, remember that you can use the evidence gathering templates available via this subject area link: <https://www.nzqa.govt.nz/ncea/subjects/>.

'Sustain, strengthen and protect all our staff. Bless them with feeling peace at this time and ensure they have what they need'

Ngā mihi

A handwritten signature in black ink that reads 'L. J. Moore'.

Louise Moore
Principal