

18 March 2020

Kia ora HCK whanau

### **CORONAVIRUS UPDATE #5**

New Zealand now has 20 confirmed cases of COVID-19, with three of those located in Wellington. The Ministry of Health's current advice is that with continued vigilance, the chance of widespread community outbreaks is still expected to remain low.

#### **Self-isolation requirement**

Anyone who has returned to New Zealand since Monday 16<sup>th</sup> March must now self-isolate for 14 days. There is clear information on the Ministry of Health website ([www.moh.govt.nz](http://www.moh.govt.nz)) about how to self-isolate properly. This includes:

- Avoiding being closer than 2 metres to other people for more than 15 minutes
- Not sharing dishes, glasses, towels, pillows or other items with people in the house
- Washing all items thoroughly.

The other residents in the household do not need to self-isolate, providing the precautions are followed. It is vital that self-isolation is done properly, to ensure the safety of the wider community.

#### **Hutt City Kindergarten's Pandemic Plan**

HCK has moved to Stage 3 (Manage It) of our Pandemic Plan.

Our kindergartens are on alert for staff and children showing symptoms and remain open.

The following measures have been put in place:

- All excursions outside the kindergarten have been cancelled
- Our staff will ensure a heightened level of hygiene practises are maintained
- Anyone who is unexpectedly absent from kindergarten will be contacted by phone
- Staff and children will be monitored for symptoms
- Non-essential staff meetings (including our annual Conference) have been cancelled.

As always, anyone who is unwell should not come to kindergarten. If your child is not attending due to illness, please call the kindergarten and let them know.

To view the HCK Pandemic Plan and the previous Coronavirus updates, please visit the Blog page on our website.

If you have any questions, please contact the Association office on 920 9800.

Ngā mihi

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Health & Safety Coordinator