

25 February 2020

Kia ora HCK whanau

### **CORONAVIRUS UPDATE #3**

There are no confirmed cases of COVID-19 (Coronavirus) in New Zealand to date. The Ministry of Health state that the likelihood of an imported case is high, but the risk of a widespread outbreak is low-moderate.

They continue to encourage precaution, with a focus on good hygiene. Everyone should take these simple steps to help stop the spread of diseases like COVID-19:

- Cover coughs and sneezes with disposable tissues or clothing
- Wash hands for at least 20 seconds with water and soap and dry them thoroughly
- Avoid close contact with people with cold or flu-like illnesses.

### **What is Hutt City Kindergartens doing?**

The Association continues to follow the advice given by the Ministry of Health and the Ministry of Education.

Our existing Pandemic Plan has been reviewed and updated. The Plan is based on a four-stage strategy to:

1. Plan For It (planning and promotion of the Plan)
2. Prepare For It (prepare for a potential Ministry of Health announcement of a pandemic in NZ)
3. Manage It (respond to a Ministry of Health announcement and follow their directives)
4. Recover From It (staff, children and families are supported and services fully restored)

We are currently working in Stage 2 – Prepare For It.

A copy of the Plan is available on our website ([huttkindergartens.org.nz](http://huttkindergartens.org.nz)) and can also be viewed at each kindergarten.

### **Please stay away from kindergarten if you or your child/ren are unwell**

Anyone who is sick must not be at kindergarten - this includes staff, children and visitors.

If there are reasonable grounds to believe that someone has an infectious or contagious disease or condition, then we must exclude that person from the service and from coming into contact with children.

This is required by regulation 57 of the Education Act (Early Childhood Services Regulations 2008).

### **Find out more**

Healthline's dedicated COVID-19 number, 0800 358 5453, is free and available 24 hours a day, 7 days a week. Further information can be found on the Ministry of Health website: <https://www.health.govt.nz>

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

Ngā mihi

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Health & Safety Coordinator

