

28 January 2020

Kia ora HCK whanau

CORONAVIRUS UPDATE

We have received some enquiries from our community about the coronavirus, so wanted to let you know that we are closely monitoring information being provided by the Ministry of Health and the Ministry of Education.

There are no confirmed cases of the virus in New Zealand. The Ministry of Health has informed us that the risk of an outbreak occurring here is currently LOW and their advice is that there is no specific action to be taken at this time.

However, the health of children and staff is of the highest priority to us so we will be erring on the side of caution. Therefore, we would like to request the following steps be taken:

- As always, anyone who is unwell should not be at kindergarten. If you have a particular concern, your GP should be contacted. Healthline is also available on 0800 611 116 and has translators and interpreters available 24/7 in 150 languages.
- Any child, caregiver or staff member who may be at high risk of exposure because they have recently been to China, and in particular, the Hubei Province, is encouraged to stay home for 14 days from their return date. It would also be helpful if you would notify your kindergarten's Head Teacher.

In terms of keeping yourself well, the World Health Organisation suggests the following:

- Avoid close contact with people who are sick
- Wash hands frequently, especially after contact with ill people or their environment
- Avoid close contact with sick farm animals or wild animals
- People with symptoms of acute respiratory infection should practice cough etiquette: maintain distance, cover mouth, and cover coughs or sneezes with disposable cloths or clothing.

Further information can be found on the Ministry of Health website: <https://www.health.govt.nz>

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

Ngā mihi

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