



He Whānau Manaaki o Tararua
Free Kindergarten Association Incorporated

SUPPLEMENT to He Whānau Manaaki Kindergarten Information Pack Business as Usual in a Covid-19 Protection Framework (CPF) Environment

OPERATING AT RED LEVEL

Kia Ora Koutou

Last Thursday 20 January 2022, kindergartens had emailed to them a copy of the *Kindergarten Information Pack, Business as Usual in a Covid-19 Protection Framework (CPF) Environment*.

On that day also, the Prime Minister announced that if Omicron transmission is detected in the community, all of Aotearoa New Zealand will move to Red within 24-48 hours. **This has occurred with her announcement yesterday that from 11.59 last night, the whole country will move to the Red setting.**

We indicated that if that occurred, we would provide specific information to those affected services at that time.

This Supplement to the 20 January Kindergarten Pack is that information.

This means that apart from those elements listed in this Supplement, Kindergarten Teams should follow the 20 January Kindergarten Information Pack.

As always, if you have any questions, ask your Senior Teacher in the first instance, or email Covidvac@wmkindergartens.org.nz

Xoxo
Mandy



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Elements Different to 20 January Kindergarten Information Pack (Please note: these supersede the 20 January Pack)

Children's Attendance at Kindergarten

Ministry of Education advice is: *Parents/caregivers who can supervise their children at home are encouraged to do so.* However, the Prime Minister has indicated that the country may be at the Red setting for several weeks. This means that teaching teams should work closely with whānau to support them to do what's best for their child/ren and whānau. It may be that children come on some days but not others, or it may be that they attend on all days they are enrolled. Children must not be excluded from attending kindergarten. Again, if you have significant concerns for the health or wellbeing of specific children, contact your Senior Teacher.

Parents/caregivers of children with complex medical needs should seek advice from their health professional about whether it is appropriate to come to kindergarten.

Wearing a Mask or Face Covering

Mask-wearing to and from kindergarten (eg, when someone gets out of their car to walk to the kindergarten) and while at kindergarten **is required** for all people 12 years and over, this includes both inside and outside the kindergarten. Staff working with children are not required to wear masks or face coverings, but may do so if they wish. Masks must fully cover both the nose and mouth of the wearer.

Mask wearing for adults (including those aged 12 years and over) when attending a celebration, community event, or excursion is required. **This includes staff** if the celebration, community event, or excursion is off site (ie. not in the kindergarten grounds).

We know that some people may not be able to wear a face covering and have an exemption. Mask wearing exemptions should not be questioned, either on their legitimacy or the reason for issue. Please support parents and whānau with mask exemptions to maintain other public health measures when inside the kindergarten. If you have significant concerns for the health or wellbeing of specific children or staff in your kindergarten (e.g., They may have a fragile medical condition) please contact your Senior Teacher to discuss this so we can determine the most appropriate way to support you.

Celebrations, community events, or excursions

Teams need to discuss with their Senior Teacher before they embark on any celebrations, community events, or excursions.

Visitors to the kindergarten

Visitors to the kindergarten should be kept to minimum.



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Meetings

Team meetings outside of session should be held virtually (ie. via Teams or Zoom) or if face to face, kept to a minimum.

Meetings with external agencies or parents/caregivers should be held virtually or if face to face, masks to be worn, and social distancing of 1 meter carried out

“Key things the early learning services need to know”

We will send you an updated copy of this Ministry of Education document tomorrow.