

- TOMARATA SCHOOL -



28 January 2021

Kia ora koutou

We are looking forward to welcoming your rangatahi and tamariki to school at the start of Term 1. New Zealand remains at Alert level 1 and everyone is doing the right thing to prevent the spread of COVID-19, so we're pleased to say it's business as usual.

With over 100,000 people coming back to New Zealand through managed isolation facilities, our very low number of community cases is a reflection of the quality of work by the managed isolation staff and health authorities. Overall, 1.5 million people have now been tested.

Unfortunately, we have to expect COVID cases to emerge but we can be reassured by the speed, breadth and depth of the health response. As noted by Minister Hipkins, New Zealand is top equal with Australia in the world as having the highest rates of testing per positive case. We know that the approaches being taken in the MIQ are at a very tight forensic level.

According to the [Lowy Institute](#), New Zealand has been ranked the best at responding to the COVID-19 outbreak out of nearly 100 countries.

We continue to have a large amount of control over how we can prevent the spread of COVID. For our school we will:

- display the QR code poster for the NZ COVID Tracer App on the office door
- keep our visitor register and attendance register up to date
- be monitoring for illness and asking anyone who is unwell to remain at home, or to go home
- encourage people with relevant symptoms to seek medical advice through Healthline or their GP and get tested for COVID if recommended to do so
- reinforce the importance of good hand washing and drying
- reinforce good cough and sneeze etiquette

I can reassure you that we will continue to regularly clean all parts of our school. Āraia te kino and protect yourself, your whānau and your whakapapa.

Ngā mihi

Cherylene Neels

Principal