

COVID-19 ISSUE 8 - 20 MARCH 2020

Kia ora koutou

With so much information and misinformation swirling around about COVID-19, I wanted to share with you what will happen if we were to have a case in our school community. We have been planning for this and are in a position to respond quickly.

- As soon as a case is confirmed in our immediate school community (eg. a student, staff member, or member of their household), the Medical Officer of Health and Ministry of Education will inform me about this, and we will work together to get quick and clear messaging out to you
- If there was a case confirmed of someone in our school, we will likely be asked to close temporarily by the Medical Officer of Health. This will allow time for close contacts to be traced, appropriate testing to be undertaken, and a careful clean of the school to be undertaken.
- If our school does need to close temporarily, we have a plan in place to support student's learning and our teachers will communicate with you through the see saw and class dojo apps. Please talk to your child's teacher on how to access these if you haven't downloaded them yet. Here are the instructions on how to download our free school if you haven't already done so. To download the app please search SchoolAppsNZ in the App Store, and then enter Leeston Consolidated School to find our School App.

We know COVID-19 feels scary and of course people are concerned for the wellbeing of our children. Please be assured that with no case confirmed in our school, your children are safe here. [A new resource has also been released](#) by the New Zealand Institute of Well-Being & Resilience with information about maintaining resilience through Covid-19 which you may find useful.

Good hygiene is a priority at our school, and we are reinforcing this regularly with all students and staff. We know that practicing good hygiene is still the best thing we can all do to prevent illness.

We are getting the most up to date advice and guidance so that we can confidently make informed decisions about the safety and wellbeing of our school community.

Ngā mihi

Lynda Taylor