



SPECIAL NEWSLETTER

January 2020

Coronavirus

Tēnā kotou katoa

You will be aware that recent media reports indicate that the situation regarding the coronavirus is evolving.

Advice given to me from the Whanganui District Health Board today is that most cases inside and outside China have been connected to Wuhan, China, and, for now at least, “high risk of exposure” applies only to people who have been in Wuhan within the previous 14 days. Other people travelling from China, but not Wuhan, should be aware of symptoms, but are not required to stay away from school unless they are unwell.

Our International Department has students who have arrived or are about to arrive from countries that have small numbers of people who have contracted this virus. I am very happy with the robust precautions that have been put in place by our International Team and we will continue to monitor closely the health of our International Students. We are following guidelines from the Ministries of Education and Health with regards to the health of our students and staff and we are ready to adapt our precautions if the seriousness of the situation develops further.

Currently, we have not identified any students or staff who are at high risk of exposure.

The health of students and staff is a priority for all of us. Here are some important steps you can take:

- As always, anyone who is unwell should not be at school. If you have a particular concern please contact Healthline at **0800 611 116** or your GP for medical advice. Healthline has translators and interpreters available **24/7 in 150 languages** and they do have Mandarin and Cantonese speaking staff available.
- I will preclude any students if I believe, on reasonable grounds, they may have a communicable disease (Section 19 Education Act). The student has to stay away for the infectious period of the specific disease.
- I will request that any staff member with an infectious disease or who is suspected of having an infectious disease, does not attend.

You may like to read the following links for further information:

https://www.health.govt.nz/our-work/diseases-and-conditions/novel-coronavirus-2019-ncov?fbclid=IwAR19INikFynKGA1SZGWvYfY19H59f_RNe0IHkrOVDh9Mtly_s1U1duCSk

<https://www.safetravel.govt.nz/news/novel-coronavirus-china-2019-ncov>

<https://wwwnc.cdc.gov/travel/notices/warning/novel-coronavirus-china>

Ngā mihi nui

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Principal

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