

Covid 19 Update

11th November, 2021

Kia ora koutou whānau,



To ensure we follow safe practices at Methven Primary School while we remain at Covid Level 2, we have a Health & Safety plan in place for our site. Please be aware of recent updates below.

Our MPS Covid Level 2 Health & Safety Plan outlines the following requirements:

1. Students (not arriving by bus) to be dropped off at the gate from 8:45am and collected by 3:15pm
2. All whānau/visitors coming onto the school grounds during school time must:
 - **Report directly to the School Office**
 - **Scan in using the Covid Tracer App and sign in at the Office Register**
 - **Adhere to social distancing rules**
 - **Wear a face covering if entering school buildings** (and strongly recommended whenever on site)
3. **Mahuri whānau** may wait by the brown deck at pick up time to avoid congestion in the Archway Carpark. Please talk with classroom teachers if settling in before school is required.

As you may be aware, on the 27th of October the Government implemented a new Public Health order making vaccinations mandatory for all education workers. This Health order requires all workers to have their first vaccination on or before the 15th of November of 2021 and their second vaccination on or before the 1st of January 2022. The Health order can be accessed by clicking the link below.

[https://www.legislation.govt.nz/regulation/public/2021/0325/latest/whole.html?search=qs_act%40bill%40regulation%40deemedreg_COVID-19+Public+Health+Response+\(Vaccinations\)_resel_25_h&p=1#LMS579320](https://www.legislation.govt.nz/regulation/public/2021/0325/latest/whole.html?search=qs_act%40bill%40regulation%40deemedreg_COVID-19+Public+Health+Response+(Vaccinations)_resel_25_h&p=1#LMS579320)

In terms of implications to whānau, you have our assurance that all workers on site from the 16th of November will be adhering to the Public Health order as follows:

The vaccination mandate applies to the following roles:

- Teachers, teacher aides, principals, administration staff, caretakers, cooks
- Parents, caregivers and members of the community who are volunteers at the school, kura, or hostel
- Parents, caregivers or volunteers at an education outside the classroom (EOTC), learning experiences outside the classroom (LEOTC) programme or excursion
- Employees/volunteers of a contracted service attending onsite **during** times children or students are also present, including planned events and activities that may take place before or after normal hours (for example, cleaners, tradespeople, nurses and health workers, staff engaged to deliver a programme or for a school event)
- Ministry-funded school transport drivers
- Employees/volunteers of organisations who provide a service on an education site (for example, the Life Education caravans, dental care, PLD providers, external Ka Ora, Ka Ako programme providers, social workers in schools)
- Learning support staff and other education agency staff (for example, Ministry of Education and ERO staff)
- Student volunteers and students on placement

Vaccination status information will be requested and stored confidentially in the school Office for the above roles.

The vaccine is not currently mandated for the following roles:

- Parents/caregivers dropping off, picking up, or settling children at a school or kura
- Parents/caregivers coming into school in the capacity as a parent for teacher interviews or prearranged meetings
- Employees of a contracted service attending onsite **outside** of school hours or when children or students are present (for example, weekend lawn-mowing service, tradespeople outside of school hours/hours of operation)
- General public using school facilities after hours (for example, playground, school pool)
- Employees or volunteers for providers of EOTC, LEOTC services or excursions which are offsite (for example, library, school camp, museum staff)
- After-school care services/out-of-hours music run by a private company on site

Your support in helping us by following our Health & Safety Plan remains critical in ensuring that we provide a safe environment at Methven Primary School.

MPS Staff & Board of Trustees