



One Tree Hill
COLLEGE

NEWSLETTER

15 May 2020



Principal's Message



Dear Parents and Caregivers

It is with huge excitement that I write the first 'post-lockdown' newsletter. At the end of last week, all staff were on-site preparing for the school to re-open. I am very pleased to say that we are all set, ready to welcome senior students back on Monday 18 May.

The Ministry of Education and the Ministry of Health have previously stated that, 'Schools are safe environments for children, young people and staff' and that 'additional public health control measures are in place to prevent the spread of disease and to support contact tracing.' I would like to inform our community that we have put comprehensive health and safety plans in place to support the well-being of all students and staff.

Please remember that school begins over 2 days:

- SENIOR students (Year 11, 12 and 13) will begin on Monday 18 May at 8:45am (8am classes will not run on this day).
- ALL students (Year 9 - 13) will attend on Tuesday 19 May at 8:45am (8am classes will not run on this day).

All junior students will continue with their remote learning programme on Monday 18 May. Any junior students who will require supervision on Monday 18 May, because they are unable to safely remain at home, can attend and will work, under supervision, in the auditorium.

The first two days back will begin with an extended whānau time. Teachers will take the time to welcome students back and reiterate the health and safety plans which have been put in place. To assist with this process, can I please ask you to sit with your child before Monday and discuss the details in this newsletter and the documents attached.

As we establish some new 'normals' at One Tree Hill College, it is essential that all students bring a learning device to school, either a laptop or tablet, each day. A mobile phone is not an adequate substitute. Also, from Monday 18 May, there will be no dropping off/picking up of students inside the school grounds. The gates will be closed. Please arrange for a drop-off/pick-up point somewhere off Rockfield Road.

In normal circumstances, we welcome parents and visitors to come to the main reception with enquiries. However, whilst in Alert Level 2, parents and visitors must not come on-site. Please make contact via email or phone.

Finally, just prior to going into lock-down, I announced that Mr Mark Barlow was leaving the college to be the new CEO of Auckland College Sport, and Mr Merv Bettridge was changing roles from Deputy Principal to Property Manager. These changes have now come into affect. New members of the Senior Leadership Team are Mr Terry Kimiangatau and Mr Geraint Tagaloa (pictured) - both are excited to begin their roles and work with our students, staff, parents and community.



To finally be re-opening the college is very exciting. I am very proud of what we have achieved as a country to protect ourselves from COVID-19 and we are hopeful that the measures we have put in place at One Tree Hill College will continue to support this.

I look forward to seeing you all again shortly,

N Coughlan
Principal



CORONAVIRUS COVID-19 EXPECTATIONS

Below is a list of some expectations that One Tree Hill College will implement from Monday 18 May:

Attendance

It is expected that all students will attend school unless they are unwell. Please do not send your child to school if they are unwell. If a student appears unwell at school, they will be sent home immediately.

Devices – computers/laptops/tablets

All students are required to bring their device with them to school. Devices will continue to be an important learning tool in classes once we are back on-site. Devices should be fully charged every night in readiness for the following day. Mobile phones are not acceptable learning devices.

Access to school

In order to limit the interaction between students/staff and the 'wider community' we respectfully ask that parents keep their distance from others and from school buildings. The dropping off and picking up of students must occur outside the school gates on the roads off Rockfield Road. School gates will be closed from 3pm each day. For student travelling by foot or public transport we require them to have moved off the school grounds by 3:45pm to make their way directly home. There is to be no congregating on school grounds or in the community.

We ask that students do not arrive at school before 8am. Any students who do arrive early to school in the mornings, will need to wait outside for classes to commence. The Knowledge Centre will not be open and the whānau common areas will be closed until 8:30am. We will not be holding any parent report evenings or other parent functions until we feel it is appropriate to do so. If you need to contact the school, please do so by email in the first instance. Parents and visitors will not be invited into the school except in exceptional circumstances whilst in Alert Level 2.

Classrooms and Corridors

Students will be required to use hand sanitiser on entry and exit to/from rooms and equipment will be sanitised after use. All frequently touched classroom surfaces will be cleaned daily. Corridors have been marked with hazard tape to direct the flow of foot traffic and create as much separation as possible.

Cleaning and sanitising

Cleaning specifications have been raised to ensure all high touch surfaces are disinfected daily. Additional 'day cleaners' have been employed to concentrate on the regular cleaning of high touch services and the toilets during the day. We have purchased a supply of hand sanitiser and surface cleaner which will be available in all classes and high use areas. We encourage all students to purchase their own personal bottle of hand sanitiser to use throughout the day.

Interval and lunchtime

Schools do not require any special conditions regarding students mixing during interval and lunchtime. However, we will be insisting that as much physical distancing is observed as possible. Students will be asked not to congregate in groups of more than 10, but to spread out. The canteen will be open, but students will be spaced apart in queues. We ask students to bring their own drink bottles filled at home. As a precaution we are not making drinking fountains available for use at this stage, with the exception of new style fountains with bottle fillers.

Physical Education

Physical Education classes can re-commence immediately. High levels of hygiene will be maintained, including hand sanitising and the cleaning of equipment after use.

Buses

Due to passenger limits, AT have informed us that students are not guaranteed seats and may need to make alternative arrangements to get to school. We ask students to make alternative plans in case this is the case. A survey will be conducted of students who use public transport to establish a register for contact tracing on the first day back at school.

PPE (Personal Protective Equipment)

The Ministry of Education has advised that 'PPE is not required or recommended as necessary in any educational facility by the Public Health Service.' If individual students decide to wear PPE, they must do so correctly.

Uniform

A reminder that students should all be wearing the correct school uniform and substitute items are not allowed. All boys must be clean shaven. Please also remind your child that apart from one small sleeper or stud per ear, no other jewellery is permitted.