

On-site Protocols After Reopening During... Alert Level 2

What Does Physical Distancing in School Really Mean:

Physical distancing in schools, means children, young people, and staff maintaining a physical distance so that they are not breathing on or touching each other. You literally get some breathing space. As described by Dr Payinda in his [NZ Herald article](#), “Covid’s not measles or chickenpox, it doesn’t hang in the air for hours waiting to infect passers-by. It travels on invisible drops of spit. You don’t have to cross the street to avoid anyone. Just avoid getting in their ‘moist breath’ zone”.

So in a school setting, if you can smell the person’s breath or feel that you are in that “moist breath” zone, move a little further away. Avoid touching others, and for adults, it is recommended that where practicable you keep a metre distance between you.



In Classrooms...	At Pick up and Drop Off Times...
<ul style="list-style-type: none">There is no bubble concept at Alert Level 2 so there are no restrictions on groups of students mixing with others on site.Children and staff should be far enough away from each other so that they are not breathing on or touching each other, coupled with good hygiene practices and regular cleaning of commonly touched surfaces. There does not need to be a specific measurement but where practicable 1 metre should be used as a guide, particularly between adults.Although volunteers and parent-help is allowed at Alert Level 2, we will not be using this option at this time.Hand sanitiser stations will be set up at the designated entry and exit points of each classroom and students and staff will use this hand sanitiser as they enter the buildings each time.Students will wash their hands before leaving the classroom and again on re-entry.Toilet use will be monitored to ensure distancing protocols are kept. Students will wash hands in the basins and then will sanitise on re-entry to the classroom.Disinfectant/paper towels will be available in classrooms to sanitise spaces throughout the school day as required.	<ul style="list-style-type: none">We are encouraging a ‘Kiss and Go...’ strategy. Where possible, whānau should say their goodbyes at the car or gateWe understand that in some circumstances, this may not work (for younger students or those who may have some reservations about returning to school). In this case, whānau may enter the school site but must abide by our protocols. You will be recorded by the staff member on gate duty as you enter (we do not need any more details as we hold contact details on our School Management System). We ask that once at the classroom door, you do your ‘Kiss and Go’. You must also distance yourself from other adults (the recommendation is 1m). We also ask, that if possible, you have exited prior to the gate closing. You should also make contact with the staff member on the gate to sign-outStudents are able to walk, scooter or bike to school. They should arrive at their allocated arrival time. We ask parents to discuss the social-distancing expectations at Alert Level 2 as they travel to and from school. Bikes and scooters will be placed by the PE Shed at the bottom of the field.There will be control strategies in place and we ask whānau to observe these (this will include marking for maintaining distancing while waiting for access to the school or when collecting students at the end of the day)

<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Food eating practices will be closely monitored and will be supervised by the class teacher. Student stationery and supplies will not be shared. Classrooms may look a little different as some furniture will be moved to allow for easy movement around the spaces. Classroom temperatures will be kept to 18 degrees (18 - 20 degrees is a comfortable temperature, below that there is increased risk - from a cold household, workplace or school). Shared supplies and equipment are able to be used if students and staff are undertaking regular hand washing and staying away if sick. All classrooms will maintain a Contact Tracing Register. 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> We need to closely track access to the school and will, therefore, put in place measures to limit parent and community access to our site. This will include the locking of school gates during the school day and the requirement of all those who come onto our site to sign in as part of our contact tracing requirements. This is not something we could ever envisage needing, but this is a requirement for schools under Alert Level 2 from the Ministries of Education and Health. We are NOT saying you cannot come on to the site, but we ask if you have to enter our site, you follow our protocols closely. It is this area that we will have 'pinch points' and we need all whānau to ensure they understand the critical importance here. If you need to access the site during the school day, please call the Office (384 3994) and someone will come to meet you.
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In the Playgrounds...

- Break times have been staggered to allow for better distancing.
- Playgrounds will be 'back in action'.
- There will be normal return to play as long as students are being careful around distancing e.g. the playground Football World Cup matches can resume.
- Physical education classes and break time activities can include access to sports equipment including playgrounds but hygiene practices will be observed before and after playing with equipment (all students will hand sanitise on leaving the classroom and before re-entry)
- Drinking fountains will remain turned off. Students will need a named drink bottle at school.

Managing Attendance & Contact Tracing...

- If your child is away, please make contact with the Office by leaving a message on the answer phone, by [emailing](#) or by using our [SchoolApp](#).
- Students not attending during Alert Level 2 should use the [survey form](#) to communicate this (the link is also in this newsletter).
- Children and staff MUST stay home if they are sick, or will be sent home immediately if they show any symptoms:
 - o Symptoms to monitor for are any respiratory symptoms such as a cold, a head cold, blocked ears, cough, sneezing, chills and a fever. Anyone with those symptoms should stay home and contact Healthline for advice, which may include getting tested for COVID-19 as a precaution.
- Our contact tracing is a combination of timetable, attendance register and a visitor register. These provide good information to health authorities if they need to contact people that might be considered a close contact of a

	<p>confirmed case, and determine whether they will need to self-isolate.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • This includes recording who the adults on-site are in close contact with as well as recording any visitors to the site, including parents and caregivers.
<p>Cleaning and Hygiene...</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • All cleaning supplies and PPE is on-site. • Students and Staff will use hand sanitiser when opening and closing all doors. • Cleaners will complete daily cleans in line with the Ministry of Health guidelines: COVID-19 SPECIFIC TASKS. • All door handles, light switches, and high-frequency touch areas are to be wiped down thoroughly before every break and again at the end of the day. Paper towels are to be used rather than cloths as they can be disposed of immediately and not reused, which again will prevent any cross-contamination • In an Alert Level 2 we will continue to model good hygiene practices (coughing into your elbow, handwashing and drying) and regular cleaning of commonly touched surfaces. • Staff will follow specific instructions that are to be followed for the disinfectant being used (eg spray and leave on surfaces for 30 seconds before wiping down). • Public Health officials have advised that if these measures are in place, then personal protective equipment is not needed. • Some children and young people may choose to wear face masks. It could be part of their cultural practice to do so and to support their hygiene needs. Encourage respect - people are being proactive in keeping themselves and others safe. 	<p>Additional Considerations...</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • When students return to school in Alert Level 2 their wellbeing will be our number one priority before any academic learning and assessment takes place. • If a parent/caregiver wishes to speak with a teacher, they will need to phone the school Office and a message will be passed on, or they can email the child's teacher. • There will be no whole school assemblies for the remainder of Term 2. • Outside extra-curricular opportunities will not resume until all protocols are in place and working. This will be reviewed on a fortnightly basis. • The entrances will be closed at 9:15am each day. Visitors to the site will have to call the Office and they will be met at the gate and the contact tracing documents will be completed. • Couriers and delivery drivers will use the 'doorbell' system located at the front entrance of MHR. This system can also be used by parents needing to pick-up or drop-off any items. • Our school Library will remain closed for the remainder of the term as planned. • Staff such as RTLB, itinerant music teachers and relievers will be able to work across different schools. The initial plan is to start school back again and stage the re-introduction of the services provided at MPS.