



Tauraroa Area School

TE KURA TAKIWA O TAURAROA

Principal: G Burns B.Ed, Dip.Tchg

Newsletter 15 May 2020

Kia ora koutou,

Tuesday's newsletter (12 May) provided detailed information on bus and school safety protocols for our return to school on Monday under COVID19 Level 2. Here's a summary of the main points:

- Year 7-13 students who have access to their own laptop computers and Chromebooks are asked to bring these to school, to reduce the number of shared devices being used
- All students should bring and use their own drink bottles
- Visitors to the school should only enter school property if absolutely necessary
- All visitors to the school, including parents, must use the front gate and sign in at the office. The only *exception to this being the parents of students in Waka Teina (Years 0-2)* who may sign in at the classroom.
- To reduce the number of students on our most crowded buses, parents are asked to consider bringing their students to school by other means. Supervision will be provided in the library from 8:00am.

Daily Notices

Messages to students are communicated from staff through our electronic Daily Notices.

Checking these will enable parents to stay informed and up to date. Go to:

<http://www.dailynotices.co.nz/view.aspx?school=12>

Advice for parents and whānau about preparing for Alert Level 2

The Ministry of Education has updated information to assist parents in preparing their children for a return to school under Alert Level 2.

<https://parents.education.govt.nz/essential-information/news-stories/covid-19-preparing-for-alert-level-2/>

Whangarei Bus Service

This important information is for the parents of students who use the paid Whangarei Bus Services (WBS) service, either on a *daily or casual basis*:

- 43 passenger seats will be available mornings and afternoons on the bus
- They are not permitting standing passengers on the service, especially during Level Two Alert status, and potentially beyond
- There should be sufficient seats available in the mornings for all passengers to be seated
- Sometimes last term, there was an unforeseen influx of casual user students who rode from TAS to Whangarei – usually on Tuesdays and Thursdays. At times the bus became near its loading capacity (with students standing). It has been impossible to predict when demand was required.
- Commencing this term, and to avoid the situation outlined above, WBS will be prioritising usage of this service as follows:
 1. Full Term or Half Term Pass holders
 2. Ten Trip card holders for students who are regular users of the service

3. Single fare paying students who are regular users of the service
4. Casual users, only if there are seats available
- Afternoon casual users (category 4) should have a back up plan should they be denied afternoon transport on the service

Shown below are details of the WBS service – timetable and fare structure

WHANGAREI BUS SERVICES (Tauraroa Area School service) 2020 - TERM 2				
TAURAROA AREA SCHOOL FARE SCHEDULE - 34 day term (18 May to 3 July) Halfway point of term is 11 June				
Morning: Bus Departs	Wait Times	Afternoon: Bus Departs	Approx Times	F A R E S
Rose Street	8-00 am	Tauraroa Area School	3-15 pm	
Maunu Road		Opposite Toe Toe Road	3-30 pm	
Otaika Shopping Centre	8-05 am	Otaika Shopping Centre	3-35 pm	
Maungakaramea Turn Off	8-15 am	Maunu Rd	3-40 pm	
To Tauraroa Area School	8-30 am arrival	Rose Street	3-45pm	
For additional family discounts please enquire with school				
				Full Term Pass \$340-00 Half Term Pass \$170-00 Ten Trip Card \$60-00 Casual Fare \$8-00

Term or half term passes must be purchased within 5 days of start of term / half term and can be purchased by cash, cheque or direct credit to bank account: **12 3099 0665398 00** Please provide student's name & contact number with payment. Passes and Ten Trip Cards may also be purchased from our office by eftpos or credit card (1.5% surcharge applies for credit card payments). To pay at office please ring ahead to ensure office staffed.

- We regret the increase in fares for this term however factors are involved in operating this service that have resulted in increased operational cost.
- A passenger list will be maintained, at least for the duration of this term. The passenger list will identify the student name, boarding point or drop off point, and a contact number for student, parent or caregiver.
- We will be operating the bus with a seated load only for a maximum of 43 passengers per journey. Priority seating will be provided in the following order:
 - Term and Half Term pass holders
 - Regular use passengers who purchase ten trip cards - students who make frequent use of the service
 - Regular use single fare paying passengers - students who make frequent use of the service
- **Please note:** Those passengers who use the bus intermittently in the afternoons, will only be carried should there be a seat available. This means that a casual afternoon user may be left behind at school if insufficient seating.
- Hand sanitizing gel will be stationed at the front entrance of the bus and is for student use.
- The bus will be cleaned daily. Once swept through a fogging machine using hospital grade disinfectant will be misted through the bus, which disinfects all interior surfaces. Additionally handles / armrests will be wiped with disinfectant.
- Consumption of food and beverages is not permitted on this service.

For enquiries please contact us on (09) 438 6005 (between 9-00am and 4-00pm) or office@whangareibus.co.nz

I would personally like to thank the teachers and parents who have supported the wellbeing and ongoing learning of our tamariki through these past 7 unpredictable and challenging weeks. We all look forward to getting 2020 back on track, even though a great deal of uncertainty remains. As a school community, we will continue to do everything we can to support our students.

Naku noa, na,

Grant Burns
Principal