

# St Joseph's Catholic School

*Te Kura Katorika o Hato Hohepa*

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15 August 2020

Dear Parents and Guardians,

Here we are again!

With the Prime Minister's announcement that Auckland will remain at COVID Level 3 for another 12 days, we are well organised to begin our distance learning programme on Monday. Our staff have been busy organising and distributing learning activities to our families. While students from Year 5 - 8 will follow a predominantly digital programme, our younger children will have a mixture of hard copy and digital links.

If there is an adult at home, children should not be coming to school. While we attempt to find a balance between having school available for children who need to come to school, we still would prefer to minimise the numbers of students attending for staffing reasons. Last week we had between 2-6 students at school. For this to happen, 3-4 staff members, including management, needed to be on the school site. It is a big resource for a very small group. Some of our staff live in the Waikato region and cannot come to school. Many of them have their own children at home too, as well as now being required to be teaching from a distance. If possible, we ask that you arrange for the care of your children in your extended bubble.

If you do need the school to look after your children, particularly if you are an essential worker, you will need to contact me [principal@stjosephs.co.nz](mailto:principal@stjosephs.co.nz) by 7 pm the evening before, in order for us to arrange cover. If there are no children at school, there will be no adults on the site either, and the school will be closed for the day. You can communicate directly with your child's teacher over any learning concerns you may have for your child.

All children should know how to access their learning online. If you have any issues, there are other learning options available through Home Learning TV on the TVNZ DUKE's daytime from 9 am to 1 pm on weekdays restarting Monday 17th, Our Pasifika parents might like to follow the Talanoa Ako Pacific Parent programme - Talanoa Ako on Air radio programme or download the [Talanoa Ako app](#), Remember to read with your children and encourage them to read, to write with your children and encourage them to write, and to look at and talk about the maths we see every day. If you spend time with your younger children on these things, they will not fall behind. Above all remember to sing, play and pray.

We hope to see all our tamariki back at school in the near future.  
Take care of yourselves and keep in touch.

Stay well and God Bless

Ursula Hall  
Principal