# **Lincoln Heights School**

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# Leisha Byrnes PRINCIPAL

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Kia ora

This message contains important public health information for you. We have been working closely with the public health service and Ministry of Education officials to guide our response. Please read this letter carefully.

A child has been confirmed as having COVID-19. The person was infectious at Lincoln Heights School from Wednesday 17<sup>th</sup> November. Those that were in close contact with the case have been provided the appropriate public health advice including testing and isolation requirements.

### What you need to do

- Please watch for symptoms and if any develop, get tested immediately and stay at home
- If you do not have any COVID-19 symptoms, you/your child can still come to school.

#### Our school is staying open

Based on international and local evidence and experience, the risk of COVID-19 transmission within school settings is considered **low**. This means that it is no longer necessary for the school to immediately close when a case has been identified as infectious while at school. Lincoln Heights School is staying open at this time.

## Please get vaccinated

If you and your whānau have not yet been vaccinated, **please get vaccinated as soon as possible**. If you have been identified as a Contact of the case, please wait until your isolation period has finished to get vaccinated.

- You can book online at www.bookmyvaccine.covid19.health.nz. There is information on this website about finding your closest walk-in vaccination centre
- You can also go to www.healthpoint.co.nz/covid-19-vaccination or www.karawhiua.nz/all-clinics.

#### Please watch for symptoms of COVID-19

If any of the following symptoms develop, ring Healthline on 0800 358 5453 or your doctor and <u>tell</u> them that you (or your child) are a Close Contact. Healthline is a free, 24/7 service with interpreters available.

Common symptoms of COVID-19 are like those found with illnesses such as a cold or influenza. You may have one or more of the following:

- new or worsening cough
- sneezing and runny nose
- fever
- temporary loss of smell or altered sense of taste
- sore throat
- shortness of breath.

Less common symptoms of COVID-19 may include diarrhoea, headache, muscle aches, nausea, vomiting, malaise, chest pain, abdominal pain, joint pain, or confusion/irritability. These almost always occur with one or more of the common symptoms.

For more information about COVID-19, see <a href="www.health.govt.nz/our-work/diseases-and-conditions/covid-19-novel-coronavirus/covid-19-health-advice-public/about-covid-19-

Please contact me on 021 182 6622 if you have any questions.

Noho ora mai

Leisha Byrnes PRINCIPAL