



COVID19 Red Light Protocols

School Opens - Tuesday 1st February 2022

General

Schools to remain open at all traffic light settings

There are no changes to the framework as a result of that review. Schools, along with most other services, will remain open onsite at all colour settings, for all students to attend, subject to health and safety settings.

Preparing for Omicron

[COVID-19 Protection Framework \(the framework\)](#) helps to protect Aotearoa from COVID-19.

Evidence of vaccinations

You cannot require evidence of a child's vaccination status. Nor can a child be excluded from education outside the classroom (EOTC) based on vaccination status. Personal information about an individual's vaccine status must be protected and cannot be shared without the student's consent.

Masks

Masks (not face coverings) will be required at Red for children and staff in Years 4 to 13 when indoors. The mask design should cover your nose and mouth properly.

It is also now recommended that masks be a medical-grade mask (for example a Type IIR/Level2 masks or above). These include the widely available 'blue' medical-grade masks that many New Zealanders are already wearing.

A reminder that there are a number of exemptions to wearing a mask including if you have to communicate with someone who is deaf or hard of hearing, or the person has a physical or mental health illness or condition or disability that makes wearing a face covering unsuitable.

Currently public transport and school transport requires face coverings to be worn for those aged 12 and above at Red.

Events and activities

In light of the greater risk of infection with a likely Omicron outbreak, we strongly recommend you do not hold events or activities that involve large numbers of students, such as school assemblies, when at Red traffic light settings. There should be no non-essential visitors onsite at Red.

Non-curriculum related events can only go ahead if you are using the My Vaccine Pass (this applies to all attendees, including students). Events held outdoors continue to minimise risk. At Red, singing must be held outside with participants two metres distance. A reminder we have developed [events and activities flowcharts](#) to support your planning for any events or activities.

Distancing and groupings

Maintaining a physical distance from others, particularly people you don't know, continues to be an effective measure to reduce risk of infection. You will need to group your students when at Red, so that wherever possible they do not intermingle with other groups (keep a minimum of one-metre distance between groups). This is particularly important in primary settings where vaccination rates will be much lower than in secondary settings.

There is **no physical distancing requirement** between group members, only between groups. You should not bring together large groups of students indoors. Consider setting up one-way systems for corridors, staggering start times, finish times and breaks, rostering use of playground equipment and other outdoor spaces.

To minimise congestion, parents and caregivers should be encouraged to do drop offs and pick-ups from outside the school grounds. Some will still need to come onsite, for example to settle in a new entrant into class. They must wear face coverings in these instances and should be encouraged to remain physically distant from others, especially when indoors.

Good hygiene and cleaning

Continue using and encouraging good hygiene practices including:

- regular hand washing/sanitising
- cough and sneeze etiquette
- regular cleaning of high touch surfaces
- open doors and windows.

Stay home if sick and get tested

Ensure tamariki, students or staff members with [COVID-19 symptoms](#) get a COVID-19 test and remain at home until a negative result is received and they are symptom free for 24 hours.

Ventilation and CO2 Monitors

Maintaining good ventilation in schools is recommended at all levels of the COVID-19 Protection Framework. Keeping your windows and doors open as much as you can to keep fresh air moving through your classrooms is the fastest and best way to ventilate a space.

Unvaccinated children, students, parents and caregivers

As noted in the [19 November Bulletin](#), all registered schools (including private schools), all school hostels (including private hostels), and all school transport services (for all students) are prohibited from requiring proof of vaccination (either via My Vaccine Pass or other tool) as a condition of using or accessing education.

This prohibition applies to all children, students and their parents or caregivers. This means that a person's vaccination status should not restrict learning for children and young people. Neither should it restrict parents and caregivers from supporting their children in their learning.

In situations where events and activities occur on school grounds and where participants extend beyond staff, parents, caregivers and learners, it **may be appropriate** to ask for a vaccine certificate. Examples of this are fundraising fairs, concerts and other community events. Third-party users of education facilities will also be able to require evidence of vaccination when using your premises.

When you can require vaccination

Parents and caregivers are required to be vaccinated if they are undertaking work for your school, including voluntary work, **and** may have contact with children or students when carrying out that work or will be present at a time when children and students are also present.

This vaccination requirement does not apply to those who are performing services remotely or who are onsite only when children and students are not present.

Other mitigations to minimise risk

Staff and volunteers being vaccinated is a significant mitigation of risk. Consider also the range of health and safety measures that can be put in place to help keep those on site as safe as possible. For example:

- treat all parents and caregivers coming onsite to support their child's learning, as unvaccinated
- at Red, ask non-essential visitors not to come onsite

- do not hold events and activities, including those that bring parents and caregivers onsite (that is, more than 100)
- all visitors must wear a face covering
- strongly encourage staff to wear a face covering when meeting with visitors, including parents and caregivers
- physical distancing of two metres is recommended where practicable
- consider whether engagement with parents and caregivers can be held outside rather than inside
- hold meetings which do need to go ahead via Zoom, Teams or similar
- if it is necessary to meet onsite, ensure the room being used is spacious and well ventilated
- ensure hand sanitiser is available indoors
- reiterate that anyone who is not feeling well should not come onto the school site and encourage them to seek advice about getting tested.

Education outside the classroom: Offsite options

With careful planning, education outside the classroom (EOTC) activities can go ahead at Red. By 4 February we anticipate that public health orders will be in place so that EOTC providers will be able to offer curriculum-related activities/services to a registered school that does **not require** all children to be **vaccinated** (even if require this from other users of their facilities).

This means the provider will need to meet a number of conditions, such as:

- working with a registered school to deliver curriculum-related activities
- the activity is in a defined space (sole use of part or all of a setting/venue for the period the service is provided)
- staff delivering the service are vaccinated.

The provider will essentially be treated as a school premise while the EOTC activity is taking place.

Public Health Order requiring mandatory booster doses

The mandatory vaccination requirements for people working in early learning services, schools and kura have been updated to require a COVID-19 booster dose. The booster requirement applies to everyone who was affected by the 15 November 2021 and 1 January 2022 education workforce vaccination mandates.

This is, everyone who works for a school or kura who may have contact with children or students or will be present at a time when children and students are also present. This includes teachers, teacher aides, support staff, relief and casual staff, caretakers and cleaners and contractors. You can find more information on the application of mandatory vaccination requirements by role at [Application of mandatory vaccination requirements by role](#).

To meet the booster dose requirements as set out in the revised Public Health Order:

- all affected persons need to have received two COVID-19 vaccinations **as well as a booster dose** within 183 days of their second vaccination
- if 183 days have already passed since the person received their second vaccination, they are required to receive their booster dose by 1 March 2022
- any person who does not meet these requirements will not be able to continue working on site.

Everyone aged 18 and over who has received two initial COVID-19 vaccinations is able to receive a vaccine booster dose four months after receiving their second vaccination.

The Pfizer vaccine booster shot is the main COVID-19 booster being used in New Zealand.

An AstraZeneca booster is also available. This is also available at least four months after receiving a second vaccination of the AstraZeneca vaccine.

Those who wish to receive this booster will need a prescription from their GP or vaccinating AstraZeneca clinic. You can find more information on both the [Pfizer and AstraZeneca boosters here](#).

Onsite protocols for RED LIGHT:

<p>In Classrooms:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Students normal classroom teaching programmes • Sanitiser will be provided in every classroom • Children will eat morning tea and lunch as per normal - safe social/ physical distancing applied - outside recommend • Doors & windows to be left open - temperature permitting • If the heat pump is on, the window is to be left partly open to circulate fresh air • 18-20 degrees is a comfortable temperature • Provide reminders about the importance of not sharing food or drinks • Spray disinfectant - no need to wipe (takes 30 seconds for germs to die) 	<p>Learning:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Red light will be normal classroom teaching programmes • Distance learning if manageable to be assigned by classroom teachers • Support staff to support as per normal at school or at home • Technology/Specialised classes will commence as per normal - health regulations to be followed • Technology timetable remains as is • Technology at Mokoia will continue - staff must wear face coverings indoors • Ensure our students are well supported with normal learning at school 	<p>In the Staffroom:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • There does not need to be a specific measurement but where practicable and reasonable 1 metre can be used as a guide, particularly between adults • Sanitiser will be provided in the staffroom • Sanitiser and tissues will be available in the staffroom and toilets • Disinfect and clean all surfaces daily • Spray disinfectant - no need to wipe (takes 30 seconds for germs to die) <p>Staffing/Release/Relievers:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Principal release will commence • We will use our regular relievers • We will decide what is best in each circumstance
<p>Devices:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Devices will be issued as per normal 	<p>In the Playground:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Children must maintain safe distancing from each other in designated play areas • Water fountains remain open 	<p>Managing Attendance:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Children and staff will not attend if they are unwell.

<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ● The device will be wiped on issue and on return ● Devices to be returned and locked away after each day 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ● School playground is open as is public playgrounds ● Students to stay in their lunch area and can remain there if they want to sit and read or talk ● Playground equipment is ok to use 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ● Children and staff who become unwell during the school day will be sent home ● Teachers (eTap) will do their own electronic registers as per normal
<p>Cleaning and Hygiene:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ● Sanitiser and tissues will be available in every classroom ● Soap, sanitiser and hot water will be available in all toilets/bathrooms ● Cleaners will complete daily cleans in line with MOH guidelines ● Additional disinfectant/cloths will be available in classrooms for children and teachers to sanitise spaces during the school day as required ● Students & staff must wear face masks indoors ● Disinfect and clean all surfaces daily ● Spray disinfectant - no need to wipe (takes 30 seconds for germs to die) ● Disinfectant toilet & bench surfaces ● Rubbish bins to be put out ● Hand sanitiser - teachers fill their own bottles. 	<p>Additional Considerations:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ● Disinfectant/wipes available to be used on shared staff keypads (eg: photocopiers and alarm) ● Contact tracing register to be established as per MOE guidelines ● Mobile phones to the office as per normal ● Late students to sign in as per normal ● Buses as per normal - must wear masks 12 years and up ● Dental clinic open ● Continue Tech in Term 1 ● Office open, distancing in place while in office space - follow MOH regulations ● RTLb, RTLit, LSCs, RTM etc can continue visits - follow MoH regulations ● Parents only to visit office, scan or sign in, sanitize and wear a mask ● Student teachers - Principal to decide placements 	<p>Gatherings:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ● See above <p>Uniform:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ● Students will wear school uniform for fitness / PE / Sports ● This is to eliminate changing for fitness or sport and avoid close proximity in designated toilets

	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • If we are approached by contractors about contract variations, we will refer them to the project manager for our projects • Other students & siblings to remain outside the school gates 	
<p>Student Designated Toilets:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Students use their own toilets throughout the day, even break times - remind students everyday • Inform students of the above • Wash hands with hot water, soap or sanitiser, dryer or hand towels • Duty Teachers to monitor 	<p>At Pick up and Drop Off:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • A staff members will supervise drop offs and pickups • Parents to remain in cars when dropping children off/and picking up • Parents to park safe distances, and will farewell/pick up children from their car park area - showing awareness of safe distancing with other families 	<p>Emergency Procedures:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Follow our school emergency procedures for fire, earthquake etc and other emergencies • The priority in these situations is keeping students and staff safe from the threat arising through the emergency event – fire, flood, earthquake etc • Ensure sufficient staff with first aid experience onsite • Dial 111 if needed in an emergency