



## COVID-19 Alert Level 3 extended - school remains closed

14th August 2020

Dear Parents and whānau

I am sure you are all aware of the Prime Minister's announcement this evening that COVID-19 Alert level 3 has been extended for 12 more days until 11.59pm on **Wednesday 26th August**. This means that **school will remain closed** and that long distance/remote learning will continue to be implemented by classroom teachers for students and families to access. Like everyone we are disappointed by this situation but there is no point bemoaning our current reality, we just have to dig deep and get the job done again like we did in the last lockdowns.

Your child's classroom teacher will share the remote learning with you although in the middle and senior schools it is often shared directly with the child. If you are not receiving learning for your child or if your child is in the middle and senior school and it appears that they do not have any learning tasks assigned to them, please contact your child's classroom teacher.

If you have any queries about, devices and/or the remote learning please contact me at:  
[davidw@marshall.school.nz](mailto:davidw@marshall.school.nz)

At the bottom of this update I have information and links from the last lockdown that might be useful for parents to revisit.

I also advise parents to check your emails often as we will be regularly sending out updates to our community.

Ngā mihi

Take care and keep safe.

David White  
Marshall Laing Primary School

## Keeping safe online

You may want to encourage your parents, caregivers and whānau to discuss internet safety with their children - of all ages. They should agree with their children what they can do online including sites they can visit and appropriate behaviours including:

- reviewing and approving games and apps before they are downloaded
- reviewing privacy settings of sites and applications
- checking children's profiles and what they are posting online
- check the sites your child is accessing
- reminding children that anything that is posted online will be permanently on the internet
- taking the time to understand what sites they are visiting and who they are talking with and check in regularly
- some social media sites have age restrictions to join, check these before letting your child use them or join them
- monitoring a child's use of the internet and consider having them use it in an open, common area of the house
- making sure your children know to report any activity they don't feel comfortable with to parents and caregivers straight away.

There is a unique opportunity during the lockdown of families going out together, albeit it close to home, but if your child is going out on their own it's still important to check where they are going.

- [Netsafe](#) continues to be available to provide you and your parent and caregiver community with support for online safety. They have [information for parents and caregivers](#) and have pulled together their [top tips for online safety during the lockdown](#). To report an incident To Netsafe - <https://www.netsafe.org.nz/reportanincident/>
- If you think a child in your care is the victim of online exploitation or abuse, report it to Police - if you or a child are in danger or a crime is being committed, call 111 or visit [your nearest Police Station](#) immediately.

If we all work together to make sure children are safe online, we can make the internet a great tool for people of all ages.

## Wellbeing information updated including new tip sheets for families, caregivers and whānau

The Ministry has updated the [wellbeing information website](#) to better reflect how the COVID-19 response has changed over the last weeks. Included in there are three new tip sheets for parents, caregivers and teachers (click on links below):

- [Tips for teachers, parents and caregivers – supporting toddlers](#)
- [Tips for teachers, parents and caregivers – supporting children](#)
- [Tips for teachers, parents and caregivers – supporting young people](#)

If you know someone who might be struggling in your school or early learning service community, there are a large range of supports in place that may be able to assist including:

- [Mental wellbeing](#)
- [Supporting children and young people at home](#)
- [Managing self-isolation](#)
- [Financial support for employers and employees](#)
- [Staying safe online](#)
- [Preventing harm from bullying](#)
- [Family harm](#)
- [Responding to discrimination – through the Human Rights Commission](#)
- [Accessing healthcare](#)
- [For people vulnerable to COVID-19](#)