

27th February

Kia ora e te whānau

The health and wellbeing of our students, staff and community is our priority.

This message is to advise that our first confirmed case at school has been reported. This was to be expected as the number of cases in our wider community increase.

The child who has contracted covid is in the middle school. Thank you to the parents for letting us know of the confirmed case. We respect the right of families to privacy and are unable to provide any further information specific to other people within our community.

We will remain open. We have really good systems in place to respond to cases and to keep any spread of the virus. All students Years 4 - 8 are wearing masks, hand sanitiser is available and classes are being ventilated. All our staff are wearing masks and are separated by cohort.

Students must bring their own drink bottle each day.

It's great for a child's wellbeing and learning to be at school with their friends and school staff, and our systems in place keep everyone as safe as possible. This is why we remain open at Red.

Your job remains the same, too: please continue to keep a really close watch of your whānau for anyone with symptoms. If unwell, please stay at home and get advice about getting a COVID-19 test.

With Phase 3 of the Omicron response, the key change is that it is only confirmed cases and their household contacts who need to self-isolate. Everyone else, including those who may have had close contact with the case but aren't in the household, must continue to monitor really closely for any symptoms of COVID-19.

Rapid antigen tests (RATs) are now being used to diagnose COVID-19 as well as PCR tests. This means that you will get an almost immediate test result back if a RAT is used.

We ask that any child who is displaying symptoms go and get tested. If they are generally unwell with any other virus or bugs, please keep them at home.

You must let us know of their absence and this can be done via:

- our Skool Loop app
- using our absence page via our website <https://moana.school.nz/form/report-an-absence>
- Email office@moana.school.nz
- Text 021 026 34461
- phone the office 868 6504 and if necessary leave a message.

If anyone in your family is confirmed as having COVID-19, you will be asked to notify your close contacts yourself. Please get in touch with us as soon as you can if your child has tested positive for COVID-19.

We know how hard the impacts on COVID-19 have been for many families in New Zealand. If you are struggling, please reach out for support for example to access food, medicine, or access financial support: [Help is available – COVID-19 Health Hub](#).

We will update our community with any further cases via our website's home page: <https://moana.school.nz/>

If you have any concerns about sending your child to school, please do get in touch. We are here to help.

We will be making a daily update on our school website at approximately 1.00 pm as the Covid situation continues.

Nga mihi

David Brock

Principal

Moanataiari School