



St Patrick's College Silverstream

No 5

Monday 30 August 2021

Vision Statement

St Patrick's College, Silverstream is a boys' school of excellence, founded on Catholic and Marist values and traditions where students develop knowledge, skills, attitudes and values which enable them to become compassionate, just and successful citizens. Our students are challenged and motivated to achieve personal excellence in an innovative learning environment enhanced by tradition, superb facilities, quality teaching and a supportive College community



Tēnā koutou katoa, Greetings everyone

Hope you are all safe and well.

Auckland and Northland remain at Alert Level 4, the rest of New Zealand moves to Alert Level 3 at 11.59pm on Tuesday 31 August.

At Alert Level 3, you legally must stay within your household bubble unless for essential personal movement including going to work and going to school. As the Prime Minister noted on Friday, schools are essentially closed at Alert Level 3 with the exception of those few children whose parents and carers must go to work at Alert Level 3, and there is no appropriate caregiver at home.

Years 11 to 13 students are legally required to stay learning from home.

So we will be open on Thursday (we require a day to restart the College), for a small number of children who need to attend. As you imagine it will not be school as we know it under Alert Level 2 or 1. All our usual safety precautions for Alert Level 3 will be in place which include following all the recommendations from the public health experts. This means we will regularly clean and disinfect high touch surfaces, encourage everyone to frequently wash their hands and cover their coughs and sneezes, and keep everyone physically distanced from others as much as possible (1 metre inside and two metres outside). We will also keep school bubbles to no more than 10 students. These bubbles will not mix with other bubbles.

Our contact tracing systems will be in place, which includes our attendance registrar and visitor registrar, and we will be limiting staff onsite with the majority of our team working from home.

We will continue to support all children who remain learning from home, through our distance learning programme.

Government guidelines for Alert Level 3:

- Work and learn from home if you can. If you can, you should keep your child at home
- Physical attendance of children at schools should only be those whose parents have to return to work and who are unable to make alternative arrangements for the care of their children
- Children should be kept in their own bubbles where possible to limit exposure between children
- Children and staff who are at greater risk are asked to stay at home
- Any child or staff member who is sick must remain at home

Implications for the College:

The Board of Proprietors has made the decision that the Boarding School will not open under Alert Level 3. Boarder parents will have further questions but we are currently in dialogue with the Ministry of Education around Boarding Schools.

What this means for St Patrick's College Silverstream:

- The College is still at Alert Level 4 until Wednesday 1 September at 11.59pm
- Years 11, 12 and 13 students will continue with their online learning programme from home
- Year 9 and 10 students should remain at home completing their learning online unless you have indicated they need to return to school
- Junior students attending will be supervised at the College and continue with their online learning. Normal timetabled classes will not operate at Alert Level 3
- Classes will operate in bubbles of 10 and they will have the same students and supervisor/s each day. Classes could be multi-level and break-times will be staggered to avoid bubbles mixing. We expect these students to be sons of essential workers only
- Jane Hambidge, Deputy Rector, has sent out a Google form to collect the names of boys in Years 9 and 10 who will attend and this will influence decisions moving forward. Please be aware that if you attend, the decision must be made now. I have to ask staff to supervise and a student's attendance cannot just be a daily choice of convenience
- The College will only be open daily from Thursday 2 September from 9.00am to 3.00pm.

As from Thursday 2 September 2021 some staff teaching Senior subjects can meet students at the College to supply further materials for learning. Subject teachers will co-ordinate this.

There will be some questions moving forward. Please encourage your son(s) to work with their tutor teacher and subject teachers for help.

Our teachers and staff are dealing with all of the same challenges you are, whether it be their own vulnerable status, at risk family members or caring for dependents at home.

Thank you for continuing to support us with our whole community approach to confronting this pandemic so that we can continue to do the best by our students, our community and each other.

Be At Peace

*Do not look forward to what **might** happen tomorrow
The same everlasting Father who cares for you today
Will take care of you Tomorrow and every day ...
Either he will shield you from suffering, or
He give you unfailing strength to bear it
Be at peace then put aside all anxious thoughts and imaginations
Remember you always rest in the palm of God's hand
So **be at peace***

St Francis de Sales

Ngā mihi

Sectare Fidem

Grahame Duffy
Rector