

11 March 2022

Rangitoto College Covid-19 Week 7 Rostering Home Information

Covid 19 Update:

I would like to begin by thanking our community for the support and understanding being shown as we work through the current Covid-19 environment. In particular, I want to recognise our students who have shown maturity in navigating lessons, where on occasions their teacher may be absent due to self-isolation, with our students continuing to work through set work proactively with a reliever. Our staff have been impressed with the level of engagement with lessons in a rapidly changing environment.

I'd also like to acknowledge our teaching staff who have had to shift their pedagogy to support this changing environment. This week we have seen an approach to teaching where Google Meets have been open to those students who are self-isolating at home while the teacher continues to teach in the classroom. This has allowed a 'portal' into the classroom so students can hear the explicit teaching occurring and the feedback from students has been very positive. The added workload of ensuring work is available on Google Classroom while teaching classes in person, and in some cases online, has meant our teachers are going the extra mile to support their students.

Up to this point, we have been fortunate in having the staffing levels available to keep all year levels at school. As part of our Covid contingency planning, we indicated in earlier communications the potential need to roster year groups home when this was no longer sustainable. We are now at this point and, as of Monday 14th March, we will be rostering home year levels for next week (week 7) before we reassess staffing availability towards the end of the week. Further communication for week 8, beginning 21st March, will be communicated next week. All students will be set home learning via their Google Classroom to complete on their rostered day at home in line with their timetabled lessons for that day (there will not be Google Meets for these lessons, due to teachers relieving in other classes). We ask that all parents check with their child to ensure that this work is completed on the day that the students do not attend school. We advise students to complete this work during the timetabled lesson times in order to maintain routines.

Rostered days at home for next week:

14th March	15th March	16th March	17th March	18th March
Year 9	Year 10	Year 11	Year 12	Year 13

Again, we remind you of the importance of the school being notified by parents/caregivers of positive Covid-19 cases, as well as those who are self-isolating due to being Household Contacts. Please refer to the flowchart <u>link</u> and complete the <u>Google Form</u> for all positive cases.

In line with the latest change to self-isolation guidelines which takes effect from midnight tonight, all positive Covid-19 cases and Household Contact cases will now need to self-isolate for <u>7 days</u> instead of the previous 10 days. You will note the updated flowchart link above reflects these changes. Please refer to the covid19.govt.nz website for comprehensive advice and contact Public Health for specific queries.

Co-curricular Activities

Despite the current situation, we are endeavouring to ensure that all students have the opportunity to participate fully in school life. Our Performing Arts and Sports Department's both have full programmes running. However, there are likely to be times when staff availability (including coaches, managers, itinerant music teachers, group leaders, etc.) are not available and hence it may be necessary to cancel events and activities at short notice. With rostering home next week, attempts will be made to reschedule SPA sessions - communication will be made directly with those students who are affected. Netball trial days have swapped days with Year 9 now taking place before school on Tuesday 15th and Year 10 before school on Monday 14th.

Kind regards

Patrick Gale PRINCIPAL