



12th February 2023

## Rangitoto College Closure Notification

Dear Parents, Caregivers and Whānau,

The Rangitoto College Board has made the decision to close the school on Monday 13th February in the best interests of community health and safety due to the localised weather conditions that predict extreme winds and rain and threats to public safety, and the non-urgent travel warnings in place by Waka Kotahi NZ Transport Agency and a recommendation for closure from the Secretary of Education. We have significant concerns over the possibility of ongoing power outages and the danger posed to our community of 3800 students and staff travelling from a wide geographic area to and from school. This course of action allows us to review the weather conditions ahead of Tuesday when we may have more certainty about the track and impact of Cyclone Gabrielle. We will communicate with you tomorrow afternoon our plans for Tuesday and for the remainder of the week.

For the health and safety of our students and staff, we are only permitting essential people on site. With the school up and running, we are now in a position to offer teaching and learning material through the Google Classroom platform during this closure period. This allows our students to continue with their learning programme from a home environment.

We anticipated this may eventuate, and on Friday we alerted teachers to prepare all students during lessons with familiarity of the Google Classroom learning platform. As such, work will be set for students and our expectation is that this will be completed independently during the hours of the school day. All Year 9 & 10 students will have work set in their core subjects (English, Maths, Science and Social Science) while Year 11-13 will have work set in all subjects.

During any school closure, students are also encouraged to revisit any work covered to date, as research indicates retrieval practice supports effective learning.

All extra-curricular activities, including sports training and trials will not take place on Monday. Further details regarding any rescheduling will be advised from the relevant department.

We appreciate that everyone would prefer to be onsite at school; however, the safety of our community is a priority at this time. Please take care of yourself and your whānau over the next few days.

Kind regards

Patrick Gale  
**PRINCIPAL**