Tēnā koutou

Student well-being is important to us here at Rangiora High School. In particular ensuring that all students have a safe physical and emotional environment.

On the 15th February, the Ministry of Health extended for a further eight days the stay-away period for travellers returning from or having transited through mainland China. This extension, does not impact on the 14-day stay away period for those who have recently arrived in New Zealand from China, or having transited through China. Those that are required to stay away only need to do so for 14 days following their departure from China, and no longer. The Ministry of Health has reiterated that there is no requirement for people travelling to New Zealand from places outside mainland China to have a ‘stay away’ period. Health officials will provide immediate advice should any information emerge that has a substantial impact on the border measures.  For further information please see [Novel coronavirus (COVID-19) information – Ministry of Health](https://www.health.govt.nz/our-work/diseases-and-conditions/novel-coronavirus-covid-19).

For those students who are unable to return to New Zealand or who are in isolation the Ministry of Education has organised a new Te Kura gateway - Emergency: Novel Coronavirus (COVID-19). This gateway will be available from Monday 17 February. This will allow New Zealand born and New Zealand residents to access government-funded dual tuition at Te Aho o Te Kura Pounamu. Please contact the school and ask for Mr Wright if you require this support.

We ask that you reinforce with your child the basic hygiene practices – for example, cough etiquette (regularly wash hands with soap, covering mouth and nose when sneezing) and staying home if they are sick.

Alongside reminding your child of basic hygiene practices we also ask that you talk to your child / children about being respectful of other cultures. For example, some individuals may choose to wear face masks, as it is part of their cultural practice to do so to support their hygiene needs.

It is critical that time that all students need to be respected and treated fairly.  If you know someone who has experienced racial discrimination related to coronavirus, the Human Rights Commission offers a free and confidential enquires and complaints service which you can use:

* [New Zealand Human Rights Commission Website](https://www.hrc.co.nz/enquiries-and-complaints/what-you-can-complain-about/)
* 0800 496877 (if calling from NZ)
* Email infoline@hrc.co.nz

Thank you for your ongoing support.

Karen Stewart

Principal / Tumuaki