

## Guidelines for Alert Level 2 at Wakatipu High School



**Wakatipu**  
HIGH SCHOOL

***“Schools are safe” but we still need to “play it safe”***

**“Public health advice is that schools are safe for all learners but people need to play it safe and continue to take sensible health and safety precautions” ([Ministry of Education Guidelines](#))**

This means that at Wakatipu High School we are expecting all staff and students back at school during Alert Level Two. The only exception to this is students and staff who are sick, if you are sick - you must stay home.

**Schools are considered controlled environments and are thus exempt from rules regarding both physical distancing and mass gatherings.** This exemption applies to school buses (not public buses) and all extracurricular activities, including sport, that are run through WHS.

Students will however, be encouraged to distance where possible and take individual responsibility for ensuring good personal hygiene practices and giving everyone “breathing space”.

A return to school means that we will revert our focus to face-to-face teaching and learning and use our normal school timetable. This means that students who are away from school will need to look to Google Classroom and liaise with students and teachers to find out what work was missed. If students are expecting to be away for extended periods of time, they will be required to use our Student Leave Form.

Overall, the exemption from physical distancing and mass gatherings at school will mean that students (and staff) will need to recognize that the rules are different when they are at school, from when they are in the public domain. It is thus even more important that our students exemplify our key values of responsibility and respect and are active citizens both at school and in the community.

## Specific public health control measures to be taken at WHS

- Parents are asked to keep any sick children at home. If a sick child comes to school, schools will send them home.
- Where possible, children, young people and staff should be far enough away from each other, so that they are not breathing on, or touching each other.
- Good hygiene practices must be adhered to at all times by staff and students. This will include regularly wash and dry hands, cough and sneeze into their elbow, and try to avoid touching their face.
- WHS will ensure the daily cleaning of commonly touched surfaces and clean all surfaces daily, including desks.
- Hand sanitising stations will be available upon entry and throughout the school.
- Soap, water and the ability to dry hands will be provided in all bathrooms and social spaces.
- Physical education classes and break time activities can include access to sports equipment including playgrounds but hygiene practice should be observed after playing with equipment.
- Practical subjects, including Physical Education, Science, Technology, Arts, will incorporate further cleaning and hygienic practices, particularly as it pertains to shared equipment, which must be cleaned daily. Curriculum adaptations may also be made (eg change of context to minimise shared equipment).
- Water fountains will not be available. Students are encouraged to bring a water bottle but ensure that the bottle does not touch the tap. WHS will clean the taps but students must wash hands after touching the taps.
- PPE is not required or recommended as necessary in any educational facility by the Public Health Service. However, students and/or staff may wear PPE if they wish.

Upon advice from the local medical officer of health, any educational facilities connected to a confirmed or probable case of COVID-19 must close on an individual or group basis for 72 hours to allow contact tracing, and then potentially for a further 14 days.

## Buses

- All Ministry (school) bus routes are exempt from physical distancing rules, however students must sanitize their hands upon entering the bus and keep the front row of seats clear to ensure physical distancing from the bus driver.
- Public buses must adhere to physical distancing and thus have limited capacity.
- We must ensure contact tracing on the buses, therefore:
  - It is essential that students only catch the school bus that they have been assigned to (including the correct Lake Hayes run). This is indicated on their student ID cards.
  - If students catch a public bus to get to school and/or to get home, they must fill out this [form](#).
- Please be sure to read the email from Mrs Panapa sent on Friday 15 May and complete all relevant forms. For more details check our website or click the following link: [Bus Information and Details at Alert Level 2](#)

## Teaching and Learning at Alert Level 2

- Teachers will revert focus to face-to-face teaching and learning. This will mean that students should not expect for classes to be available via remote.
- Teachers will endeavour to keep Google Classroom up-to-date and in some instances may be able to make their lessons available through Google Meet (this will be an exception, rather than the rule).
- Students should follow normal procedures when absent from class, including checking Google Classroom, checking with a peer or teacher to find out what was missed.
- If students know they are to be absent for more than 2 days, they should complete and follow the instructions on the student leave form - [Student Leave Form](#)

## Student Attendance and Absences

- Students presenting any cold/flu symptoms must stay at home.
- If a student is unwell or absent for any reason, the parent/caregiver must email [attendance@wakatipu.school.nz](mailto:attendance@wakatipu.school.nz) or call the school. (*Unexplained absences will result in detentions*)
- If a student and/or family member is immunocompromised and intends to stay home for an extended period of time, they should email Mr Nathan to make arrangements.
- Again, if students know they are to be absent for more than 2 days, they should complete and follow the instructions on the student leave form - [Student Leave Form](#)
- **Missed assessments** - Senior students who are away from school during an internal assessment should provide the school with a medical certificate upon return. If students are unable to get a medical certificate, or it is impractical, then the parent/guardian must email our NZQA Principal Nominee, Mr Richards ([drichards@wakatipu.school.nz](mailto:drichards@wakatipu.school.nz)), outlining the reason that the student was away from school

## Miscellaneous

- The cafe will be open, but cash will not be accepted
- If students are inside the building, they should be seated
- Sports equipment will not be lent out, so if you wish to play basketball, etc at break time, you will need to bring your own basketball
- Students should not be going to Remarkables Park (eg New World) before or after school, with the exception of Year 13's.
- All students should be exemplifying citizenship at school, on the buses and in the community, at all times.
- The Uniform shop cannot allow uniform try-on's during Level 2. Please refer to the [Argyle Online](#) size guide.
- NCEA End of Year Exams will now begin on Monday 16 November. [Click here](#)

## Support Available

- If students need support as they return to school they should reach out to their Kaiarahi or our Guidance Counsellors (and/or Dean, teacher, or SLT, as required).
- There are also a range of supports and agencies at school and in the community that are available for both individuals and families. [Click here](#)

### Extra-curricular activities, including sports, arts, culture, music, etc.

- We are committed to re-starting our extra and co-curricular activities as we know that is a really important part of life at WHS and is a significant contributor to students' sense of connectedness, wellbeing and engagement. However, we need to do this under the guidelines of 'playing it safe' and will begin with focus on Friends, Fun, and Fitness (in the case of sport).
- Prior to activity:
  - Any student, coach, tutor, teacher who is displaying symptoms of a cough or cold must not attend or participate and should be sent home.
  - All participants must wash and dry their hands (or use hand sanitiser) before activity.
  - For after school activities, tutor/coach/teacher will take either a hard copy roll or electronic roll of who is present, including any external people, and date of the session. This information must be kept securely and able to be accessed for contact tracing purposes for a four week period following that date. A reminder that
- No parents or other spectators allowed at or near the activity, and should wait in the car when picking up or dropping off students. ( eg. not in school foyer, theatre, gym or side of court/field).
- Schools are exempt from the 'Mass Gathering' rule of maximum of 10 people, however, if an external coach/parent/tutor is present, then the Mass Gathering rule comes into effect.
- There are more detailed [Procedures for Sports Training](#), which can be found on the preceding link or on the school website.

Key dates:	
12 - June	No School - Professional Learning (Restorative Practice) for Staff

## Transitioning back to school at Alert Level 2

- Calm and mature return to school from students.
- Promote Active Citizenship, including the school's values of Responsibility and Respect.
  - Responsibility - students will take responsibility for good hygienic practices. This will include washing and drying hands regularly, coughing/sneezing into elbows, keep hands from face.
  - Respect - students will be mindful of students and staff who might be anxious or nervous about a return to school and will ensure that all people are given breathing space. They will not touch others and act in a respectful and calm manner throughout the day, following teacher instructions.
  - Active Citizenship - students will understand that there are different rules at school then in the community and will thus adhere to the different rules in the different contexts. They will be knowledgeable about their civic and social responsibilities and act accordingly.
- Staggered Start (Seniors only on Monday 18, Juniors only on Tuesday 19)
  - Only senior students will be at school on Monday 18 May. Junior students will stay at home and continue to be taught remotely (during 'normal' Timetable). This will be a Day 1 of the Timetable (Ako, Line 1, Line 2, Line 3).
  - Only junior students will be at school on Tuesday 19 May. Senior students will stay at home and continue to be taught remotely (during 'normal' Timetable). There will be a Timetable change on Tuesday but this will still be a Day 2 of the Timetable (Ako, Line 4, Line 5, Line 6, Line 2).
- We will begin school on Monday 18 and Tuesday 19 with Ako time, to enable Kaiarahi to ['check and connect'](#) with students during Ako time.
- All students will return to school on Wednesday 20 May, beginning with Ako time. We will run the normal school Timetable (Day 3)