

Teena koutou e te whaanau. Nau mai hoki mai ki e te whaanau o te kura tuarua o Te Oko Horoi,

Dear Parents / Caregivers. Welcome back to Cambridge High school.

I hope that you have been able to enjoy some down time with your friends and family and were able to re-charge after the particularly challenging year we had last year. In the face of the disruption, we were able to achieve an incredible amount as a school for our students and the community, but it took a lot of energy. Looking ahead to 2022 we will again need to face up to ongoing disruption and manage as best we can, finding ways to support each other and demonstrate understanding in such challenging times. I encourage you to keep in contact with us and each other as the pressure comes on for all of us at different points throughout the year. We will do what we can to help out throughout the year and encourage you to contact the teacher directly (for particular subjects), the form teacher (for general concerns on a student) or our support staff (for finance or attendance pressures). I know that we will certainly need your understanding as we anticipate more disruption than we have seen before. This term we will not be re-entering lockdowns, but rather we will keep the school running with special measures in place to cater for active cases and close contacts and the absence this will cause with staff and students.

We are looking forward to getting the year started and seeing students onsite over the coming week. We have needed to make some adjustments to fit in with the red light setting and expectations from the Ministry of Education. Here are the details:

- Start of year details
- Face mask wearing
- Expectations in class
- Managing cases
- Absence

### **Start of year details**

Subject changes for Years 10, 11, 12, 13. 9 – 11:30 27<sup>th</sup> January. Further instructions and sign-in requirements at the student office at the front of the school.

All Year 12 and 13 students first day is Tuesday 1<sup>st</sup> February. 8:45am start. Further instructions at the student office at the front of the school.

All Year 9 students first day is Wednesday 2<sup>nd</sup> February. 8:50am meeting at the front of the school. Please meet in your houses. House banners will be in place to help with this. We have reviewed the plans for the day to make it compliant with expectations and request that face masks are worn by students throughout the poowhiri.

All students first day on full timetable is Thursday 3<sup>rd</sup> February. This day will start with Form Time from 8:40 – 9:40 as we go through start of year details. From period 2 onwards it will be a normal school day and it is Day 4 on the school timetable. This day replaces the planned House Day as we will not be able to run this event under the current settings.

Friday 4<sup>th</sup> February is a normal school day for all staff and students.

### **Face mask wearing**

The government has made it a compulsory requirement for all students from Year 4 to Year 13 to wear a face mask indoors. If students do not have a mask they will be asked to go to the SLT or House Deans where we have a very limited supply available.

### **Expectations in class and between classes**

All students will need to be in a seating plan and follow this for the foreseeable future. This is to support case management and contact tracing.

All staff and students need to wear a face mask indoors.

We have kept our 5 min movement time between lessons and students are encouraged to use this time to wash hands or hand sanitise between lessons.

Students and staff need to follow the one-way system between classes to minimise the congestion in some of our internal corridors.

### **Managing cases**

Our contact tracing systems (attendance register, seating plans, visitor register and school timetable) will support our response should there be a case in the school.

If you are a household contact of an active case, you should be self-isolating immediately. Please contact your Form Teacher or House Dean to inform us of the situation.

Like previously, if you are feeling unwell, or have symptoms, stay off school and get a test.

### **Absence**

As normal, please contact [absences@camhigh.school.nz](mailto:absences@camhigh.school.nz) with any absences including illness or self-isolation requirements.

We can continue to support your child's learning and will need to work through the House Deans and teachers to manage this, as it will vary depending on the class. In most cases the simplest solution will be to join the class in an online capacity. This can be arranged with a buddy in the class with the laptop providing a video/audio link to the class. We will provide more details shortly about the continuity of learning during absence.

### **Feedback**

We want to hear from you about what worked and what we could improve on. We are not expected to go into lockdown again but can still learn some lessons from the two stints we had in lockdown last year. We will be in touch shortly with a feedback form so that you can share your experiences in supporting learning from home. We will use this feedback to help inform our approach to managing the anticipated disruption this year.

Kind regards

Ngaa mihi

Greg Thornton