



16 September 2020

Dear Parent, Caregiver, Staff Member

COVID-19 case at Chapel Downs School – please get tested.

This is to update you on the risk from a student who spent 30 minutes at school on Monday 14 September from 8.30 am – 9.00 am, before receiving a positive test result.

Public Health is phoning the few people identified as close contacts this afternoon, and asking them to stay in self-isolation for 14 days until the end of Monday 28 September.

Everyone else at school on Monday morning is considered to be casual contacts. Casual contacts may have only been exposed to the virus for a very short time, or not at all, so are at a much lower risk of developing COVID-19.

However, as a precaution, please get your child tested and stay away from others outside the family until you receive a negative test result, as should all staff members.

Please quote this code **SURV-TM2SC10** when getting tested.

There will be a testing site at the school on Friday and Saturday, with the times to be confirmed. You can go to any community testing centre or urgent care clinic ([list on the ARPHS website and here](#)).

Please watch out for **COVID-19 symptoms**:

- **New or worsening cough**
- **Sore throat**
- **Runny nose**
- **Fever**
- **Temporary loss of smell**
- **Difficulty breathing**

Please call your doctor or Healthline (0800 358 5453) if you or your child has any symptoms. They will explain what to do.

Those who are close contacts are considered to be at higher risk, so they will receive letters asking them to get tested and stay in self isolation for 14 days, until the end of Monday 28 September.

Their family members including siblings can continue normal life and go to school and work, unless the close contact develops symptoms or becomes a case.

Please be assured that the chance of close contacts developing the illness is small, and the risk is even smaller for everyone else at the school at the same time as the person with COVID-19.

In addition, while children can get COVID-19 and transmit the virus to other people, the experience in New Zealand and overseas shows COVID-19 does not infect or affect children in the same way it does adults.

The student with COVID and her family members are now isolating, and Public Health is monitoring their health and wellbeing.

Finally, if you know the identity of the student or family with COVID-19, please do not disclose their names or details to anyone else, and discourage your children from speculating or identifying them on social media. This can lead to on-line bullying and abuse.

For more information: call Healthline: 0800 358 5453 (a free, 24/7 service with interpreters available). You can also visit www.arphs.health.nz or www.covid19.govt.nz.

Thank you for your support.

Medical Officer of Health
Auckland Regional Public Health Service