

# College**House**



PALMERSTON NORTH BOYS' HIGH SCHOOL

Wednesday, 12 August 2020

#### **RE: Alert Level Two**

Dear Parents and Caregivers,

As you will be aware, the Prime Minister advised last night that New Zealand (outside of Auckland) will be moving to Alert Level Two at noon today. As such, College House will return to the Level Two protocols that were put in place on our boarders' return from the lockdown.

I have met with all College House young men this morning and communicated the following information. I appreciate that some of these changes may inconvenience some young men. However, I have asked for their cooperation to ensure the safety of all young men, staff, and their families that reside at College House.

At this stage, the following protocols will be in place until at least midnight on Friday when we will act on advice from the Government as to how College House will proceed.

The overriding principles of Level Two are:

- to minimise the risk that someone gets infected with COVID 19 in the first place.
- to ensure we can identify and contact anyone who has been in close contact with a boarder or staff member in the unlikely event that they may have been infected with COVID-19.

#### Hygiene

College House has plenty of hand sanitiser that will be placed throughout the hostel. We have spoken to all young men about the importance of personal hygiene. This hygiene includes the use of soap and water and hand sanitiser on an extremely regular basis. Sanitising is particularly essential before entering the Dining Room, recreation spaces, ablutions, and when returning from sport or outdoor activity.

#### <u>Leave</u>

Unfortunately, boarders will not be able to take leave offsite other than for scheduled activities and appointments. All leave will need to be communicated with duty staff rather than using the Boardingware system.

## THE HOME OF Murray Club

112 North Street, PO Box 4049, Palmerston North. P/ (06) 358 6704 E/ chmanager@pnbhs.school.nz Weekend Leave can be applied for in the usual manner. However, we ask that any overnight leave is taken to a boarder's own homes or with their caregivers. When returning your son to the hostel after Weekend Leave, we ask that your son enters the hostel on his own without being accompanied by parents and family.

#### **Dormitories and Ablutions**

All boarders have been asked to stay in their allocated dorms and refrain from visiting other dorms. Each dorm has been assigned an ablution block that is to be used solely for the Level Two period.

#### School and Prep

PNBHS will operate under the conditions set by the Ministries of Education and Health. No boarders will be able to return to the hostel during the school day, with the exception being lunchtime. During lunch, no boarders will be able to enter the dormitories as cleaning staff will be present.

Prep will continue with the same duration each evening. Venues have been allocated to help provide physical distancing, and College House duty staff will continue to provide supervision.

There will be no sharing of devices allowed. If a boarder requires a Chromebook, then it will be allocated to him for the duration of prep and sanitised before returning it.

#### <u>Laundry</u>

Current laundry processes will continue as this is contactless. Numbers in the drop off area will need to be limited.

#### <u>Sport</u>

We will take advice from sporting associations and communicate any changes with our young men.

#### **Recreation Spaces**

Recreation Rooms will remain open. Boarders will be required to use hand sanitser before entering any Recreation Room, and physical distancing is also needed as best as possible

#### Dining Room

College House has put in place the following steps to provide for physical distancing in the Dining Room:

- Breakfast will be in two sittings (Juniors at 7.10 am, and Seniors at 7.30 am)
- Lunch will alternate daily with juniors and seniors taking turns at having a takeaway lunch at school.
- Dinner will be in two sittings (Juniors 5.30 pm, and Seniors at 6.00 pm)
- There will be no self-service at meals.
- Tables will be set with cutlery instead of being received from receptacles.
- All boarders will be required to sanitise their hands before entering the Dining Room.
- Surfaces in the Dining Room will be disinfected between sittings.

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#### **Unwell Boarders**

If a boarder becomes unwell, he will be isolated in the sickbay. Medical advice will be sought from Healthline or the College House Doctor. You will be asked to pick up your son as provision for isolation is limited at College House.

#### Visitors to College House

Visitors to College House will be limited to tradespeople and suppliers. Day students will not be permitted at the hostel, and all functions organised by outside parties have been cancelled.

If you wish to drop off anything at College House during the week, please ring or text me in advance. Anyone entering the hostel will need to sign the site access register.

Thank you for your understanding and support of the above protocols. As you can imagine, physical distancing in a hostel is a challenging thing to achieve. However, we intend to keep all of our young men as safe as possible. I will communicate with you any changes to the above in the coming days.

Stay safe.

Kind Regards,

Mon

Matt Davidson

COLLEGE HOUSE MANAGER Palmerston North Boys' High School Developing Educated Men of Outstanding Character Hai Whakapakari i Ngā Tamatāne Kia Purapura Tuawhiti +64 6 354 5176 Ext: 780 | 027 859 9721 www.pnbhs.school.nz | stratus.pnbhs.school.nz PO Box 4049, 263 Featherston Street, Palmerston North, NZ

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