

April 2022

Dear Parents/Caregivers

When schools begin under Orange Traffic Light System, school transport services will also operate to normal schedules as far as possible. The ongoing safety of drivers and students and the ability to contact trace is a priority when we operate at Orange, and **based on the Ministry of Education and Ministry of Health directives, will be managed in the following ways:**

- Schools must ensure their transport providers have reliable, up-to-date bus lists to enable contact tracing.
- Physical distancing is not a requirement on school transport.
- Standing passengers are allowed as per normal operation. Buses have a set number of passengers they are allowed to carry (specific to each bus) and student numbers are checked daily.
- **Face masks are compulsory for all students aged 12 and over on school transport.**
- **Face masks must be worn appropriately at all times on school transport.**
(This includes charter buses hired by the school to transport students and staff)
- Providing face masks/coverings is the responsibility of individuals and caregivers.
- **Any student who is unwell should not travel on a school bus.**

In order that all students feel safe travelling on the school buses it is essential that all students display safe and sensible behaviour. Students who are unable to comply with this will be removed from the bus as per the Bus Code of Conduct Agreement.

It is anticipated that Omicron may affect the availability of bus drivers, which may impact some bus runs over coming weeks/months. This will be communicated to schools by the Bus Controller and individual schools will communicate this to their communities via usual communication channels (e.g. text, email, Facebook, website etc).



Please wear a
face covering

Te Kāwanatanga o Aotearoa
New Zealand Government

Unite
against
COVID-19



Stay home
if you are sick