

Whānau Panui

COVID-19/Coronavirus

27 January 2022

Kia ora e te whānau

As previously reported, **all of Aotearoa is in the Red Light setting** of the Covid Protection Framework. This decision was made by Government to help slow down the spread of the Omicron variant of Covid so our hospitals can better cope and so our workforce doesn't all get sick at the same time. Please continue to help slow the spread of the Omicron variant by following the rules aimed at keeping us all safe.

What's new that Te Roopu Taurima is doing to keep tangata safe in their whare and the community?

In addition to the update we provided, dated 25 January. Under the revised mandatory vaccination Order, all kaimahi are required to have their Booster shot. We are working with the kaimahi who are eligible now to have their booster by the 15 February. All other kaimahi that are not yet eligible, due to timing, will have up to six months from the date of their 2nd dose to receive the booster.

We have developed **Isolation Protocols** to guide our kaimahi and managers should a possible or confirmed Covid-19 case or close contact event occur for a tāngata and/or kaimahi. The Service Manager for the region/whare will manage regular communication with whānau to keep them updated. Our existing Covid-19 Standard Operating Procedures (SOPs) will continue alongside the Isolation Planning Checklist. A summarised SOP operational table is available in all whare and on our [website](#). **Remember to contact the whare or the manager before going to the whare**, so safe planning can be arranged.

Changes to the Mask Wearing Rules

From now on all workers, including Te Roopu Taurima kaimahi, who are covered by the mandatory vaccination Order must wear medical grade blue masks at work. In order to keep tāngata and kaimahi safe, this will also apply to any manuhiri/visitors to a whare or office. You will not be able to wear any other type of mask or face covering, a kaimahi will supply you with a mask to wear while visiting, we appreciate your cooperation.

How can you be prepared?

The [Unite Against COVID-19 website](#) has great resources to help you and your whānau prepare and stay safe in the event you or someone in your household catches COVID-19. This includes a handy [COVID-19 Readiness Checklist](#) and tips on how to ensure you're able to look after yourself if you're required to isolate.

What more can you do to keep safe?

- Stay home if you're unwell and contact the COVID-19 Healthline on 0800 3585453 for advice.
- Wear a **face covering** when you're in public or a mandated area.
- Maintain **physical distancing** of at least 1 metre.
- Ensure you're maintaining good **hand hygiene**.
- Continue to use the **COVID-19 tracer app**.
- Arrange your **booster shot** as soon as you're eligible (four months from your second vaccination dose) through [BookMyVaccine](#).

Additional Helpful Websites

Remember to check out the [Karawhiua channels](#), and the [Te Puni Kōkiri 'COVID-19 Information for Māori' portal](#).

If you have any questions or concerns, you can contact [Manawhakahaere/CEO, Tania Thomas 0272912084](#) or tania.thomas@terooputaurima.org.nz

Kia maia, kia manawanui, kia kaha tātou ki te tiaki i a tātou ano
Be strong, be resilient, and let's look after one another

