



## Heretaunga College

Principal: Fiona Craven BSc (Hons), PGCE

Ward Street, Upper Hutt, New Zealand

Telephone: 64-4-939 9370

Email: [info@heretaunga.school.nz](mailto:info@heretaunga.school.nz)

[www.heretaunga.school.nz](http://www.heretaunga.school.nz)

17<sup>th</sup> March 2020

Dear Parents and Caregivers of Heretaunga College

### HERETAUNGA COLLEGE: COVID-19 UPDATE

As you know the COVID-19 response is rapidly changing hour by hour. We are currently working on our responses to new directives and advice from the Ministries of Health and Education.

Yesterday I consulted with members of our community and also considered my own situation. At present, transmission is not in the community. Evidence shows that infection is primarily between those living together. With this in mind, until further notice we would like to advise families and whanau that if a student is in a household where someone is required to self isolate then we would like that student to stay at home. The school absence email is: [Absences@heretaunga.school.nz](mailto:Absences@heretaunga.school.nz).

During Friday, our teachers are going to be finalising their online learning environments for students who are involved in self isolation and any future scenarios impacting on the school.

It is probably timely to have a conversation with our young adults about social media and the mixed messages it can portray around events like COVID-19. There are many alarming untruths out there and we need to minimise their fears and worries and support them to make sure they make healthy choices at this time.

Please note that Heretaunga College has cancelled/postponed the following events:

- Tongariro Crossing trip (postponed)
- Relay for Life (postponed)
- All overnight trips that are coming up
- School Production (cancelled)

Any cancelled events, the money will be allocated back into your school account as a credit. Please contact our Finance Department at [Accounts@heretaunga.school.nz](mailto:Accounts@heretaunga.school.nz) for further information.

All other events will be updated as they come to our consideration.

Ngā mihi

Fiona Craven  
PRINCIPAL