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RidgeView School

Monday 27 January 2020

Dear Parents and Caregivers

Coronavirus Update

The Ministry of Education has been in contact with me with regard to the evolving situation concerning the coronavirus. This is a new virus and its specific nature is currently unclear. However, it seems that you can have the virus at an early stage without showing symptoms. The incubation period is considered to be 14 days.

I would like to remind families that if your child is sick with flu-like symptoms, or if your child becomes sick, **he or she should stay away from school**. You can contact Healthline for free on 0800 611 116 or your GP if you have a particular concern about your child. Healthline has translators and interpreters available 24/7 who speak 150 languages. The Ministry of Health also has updated information on their website www.moh.govt.nz.

If you have recently been in China or your child has been in contact with someone confirmed with the virus, I would request that you notify the school and stay away for 14 days. Please note that according to Section 19 of the Education Act, the principal of a state school can preclude a student if they believe on reasonable grounds that he or she may have a communicable disease.

We will be talking to the students about good hygiene practices including:

- Washing hands frequently
- Use of hand sanitiser
- Covering coughs and sneezes with disposable tissues

Please contact me with any questions or concerns.

Yours sincerely

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read 'Rachael', with a small arrow pointing to the right.

Rachael Kemball
PRINCIPAL