

Monday November 8 2021

Dear Parents and Caregivers

Thank you all for your understanding and support in these challenging times. We are doing our very best to manage things and wait for the advice to trickle through from the Ministry of Education and Secretary for Education. This panui shares the recent advice we have been given about vaccinations required or not required depending on your role in the school.



Under level 2 we still ask parents to pick up and drop off at the school gate unless your child is new to school or needing to settle. If so then come through the office and sign in and out. Wear a mask and maintain distance for any conversations.

Meetings with staff can still happen and will be in a ventilated space.

This week is just a 3 day week at school. Thursday November 11th is a Teacher Only day and Friday is Show Weekend.

- **Vaccinated pupils 12 and over** - we encourage you to let us know your child's vaccination status ASAP so we can keep a register at school.
- **School Prizegiving** - Weather dependent we are aiming for this to be held on Monday 13 December . It will be held outside so we can keep distancing protocols and masks on but all are welcome and invited. If it is wet then we will move to Tuesday December 14.
- **School Picnic** - We are aiming for Monday December 6th now before the school camp. Again this will be outside so all are welcome but protocols are encouraged with masks and distancing and sanitising. More information to come.
- **Year 8 leavers Dinner** - This is a new event so we definitely get to farewell the Year 8 pupils and their families. This will be Sunday night December 12th at school. Again more information and invites to follow.

Ministry of Education Advice:

Application of mandatory vaccination requirements for various roles

We have developed a table to help you understand the types of roles in the education sector that will be covered by the Public Health Order requirement to get vaccinated.

General principles for the application of the Order are:

- all workers who carry out work at or for an early learning service, registered school, or hostel fall under the requirements of the Order if:

- they may have contact with children or students when carrying out their work, or
- they are present at the early learning service, registered school or hostel where children or students are also present
- the worker has a duty under the Order to ensure they meet the vaccination requirements.

Where the worker is a staff member of a service contracted to the registered school or hostel, the service provider is responsible for ensuring the worker meets the requirements of the Order.

Type of role	Are they required to be vaccinated under the Public Health Order?
Teachers, teacher aides, principals, administration staff, caretakers, cooks	Yes. These staff are required to be vaccinated as they may have contact with children or students and/or will be present at a time when children and students are also present.
Learning support staff and other education agency staff (for example, Ministry of Education and ERO staff, NZQA exam invigilators)	Yes. These staff are required to be vaccinated if they are visiting early learning services or schools to deliver a service that means they may have contact with children and students and/or will be present at a time when children and students are also present.
School board members	<p>The board member is required to be vaccinated if they may have contact with children or students or will be present at a time when children and students are also present.</p> <p>Otherwise, they are not required to be vaccinated.</p> <p>The board may want to consider a working arrangement that enables an unvaccinated board member to conduct business online and/or at a time that students will not be present (such as evening board meetings).</p>
Ministry-funded school transport drivers	Yes. Drivers of Ministry-funded school services are required to be vaccinated. This is because these people are carrying out work for an education service and they will have contact with children or students.
Bus drivers (general)	No. General transport workers such as public bus drivers (including dedicated school services funded by regional councils) or train conductors are not required to be vaccinated as they are not employed or engaged by a school or hostel.

<p>Employees/volunteers of a contracted service attending onsite during times children or students are also present, including planned events and activities that may take place before or after normal hours (for example, cleaners, tradespeople, nurses and health workers, staff engaged to deliver a programme or for a school event)</p>	<p>Yes. Employees of a contracted service physically attending a school or hostel site when children or students are also present are required to be vaccinated.</p> <p>This is because these people are carrying out work at or for a school or hostel and they may have contact with children or students or will be present at a time when children and students are also present.</p>
<p>Employees/volunteers of organisations who provide a service on an education site (for example, the Life Education caravans, dental care, PLD providers, external Ka Ora, Ka Ako programme providers, social workers in schools)</p>	<p>Yes. Employees of a contracted service physically attending a school or hostel site when children or students are also present are required to be vaccinated.</p> <p>This is because these people are carrying out work at or for a school or hostel and they may have contact with children or students or will be present at a time when children and students are also present.</p>
<p>Employees of a contracted service attending onsite outside of school hours or when children or students are present (for example, weekend lawn-mowing service, tradespeople outside of school hours/hours of operation)</p>	<p>No. These staff are not required to be vaccinated. The work will not be occurring at a time when children or students are expected to be present.</p>
<p>After-school care services/out-of-hours music contracted by the school</p>	<p>Yes. Employees of a contracted service physically attending a school site when children or students are also present are required to be vaccinated.</p>
<p>After-school care services/out-of-hours music run by a private company on site</p>	<p>No. These workers are not required to be vaccinated under this Health Order as they are not employed or engaged by a school. These after-school care providers may be covered by other requirements.</p>
<p>Parents, caregivers or volunteers at an education outside the classroom (EOTC), learning experiences outside the classroom (LEOTC) programme or excursion</p>	<p>Yes. These people are required to be vaccinated because these people are carrying out work (unpaid) at or for a school or hostel and they may have contact with children or students or will be present at a time when children and students are also present.</p>

<p>Employees or volunteers for providers of EOTC, LEOTC services or excursions which are offsite (for example, library, school camp, museum staff)</p>	<p>No. These workers (paid and unpaid) are not required to be vaccinated as they are not working “at” an education service or employed or engaged by the education service.</p> <p>However, schools and kura are encouraged to check on the vaccination status of offsite activity providers as part of their COVID-19 health and safety assessments.</p>
<p>Parents/caregivers dropping off, picking up, or settling children at a school or kura</p>	<p>No. As the Order only applies to workers and volunteers, not people who are visiting the school.</p>
<p>Parents, caregivers and members of the community who are volunteers at the school, kura, or hostel</p>	<p>Yes. These people onsite are required to be vaccinated as they may have contact with children or students or will be present at a time when children and students are also present.</p> <p>If the volunteer is working offsite and will not have any contact with children or students as part of their role, then they are not required to be vaccinated.</p>
<p>Parents or caregivers attending meetings or events on site (for example, parent-teacher interviews)</p>	<p>No. As the Order only applies to workers and volunteers, not people who are visiting the school or hostel.</p>
<p>Employees/volunteers of an organisation that is not connected with the school but shares a building or campus (for example, churches, cafes)</p>	<p>Yes. These people are required to be vaccinated if they may have contact with children or students or will be present at a time when children and students are also present.</p>
<p>Student volunteers and students on placement</p>	<p>Yes. Those over the age of 12 are required to be vaccinated if they may have contact with children or students or will be present at a time when children and students are also present.</p>
<p>Union representatives</p>	<p>Yes. These people are required to be vaccinated if they may have contact with children or students or will be present at a time when children and students are also present.</p>

General public using school facilities after hours (for example, playground, school pool)	No. The requirement to be vaccinated only applies to workers and volunteers.
Unvaccinated person responding to an emergency on site (for example, burst water pipe, windows blown out)	We encourage schools to proactively engage with their regular tradespeople about their vaccination status to mitigate any possibility of unvaccinated peoples coming on to the school site in the case of an emergency.
Parents or caregivers coming into a playgroup that operates on a school site or site otherwise licensed for education and care (while other children are attending school or the early learning service)	Yes. They are required to be vaccinated if they are acting as a volunteer to support the child and they are present at a school site at a time when other children are present.
Parents or caregivers attending specialist early learning services with their children (for example, Champion Centre)	Yes. They are required to be vaccinated if they are acting as a volunteer to support the child and they are present at a school site at a time when other children are present.
Secondary-tertiary partnership providers	Yes. These people are required to be vaccinated if the service is provided onsite as they may have contact with children or students or will be present at a time when children and students are also present. This requirement does not apply if the service is delivered offsite from a school or hostel.

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Information regarding parents coming on site

The MOE have had a number of queries asking whether it is possible for parents and caregivers to come onsite particularly if they are unvaccinated.

The requirement to be vaccinated is only for those people who are working for the school, which may be unpaid work such as volunteering. In instances where parents or caregivers volunteer for your school **and** are regularly on site when children and students may be present, these parents will be required to be vaccinated.

This vaccination requirement does not apply to those who are performing services remotely or who are onsite only when children and students are not present.

In instances where parents and caregivers are **not** providing work for your school, these parents are still permitted to attend on site after **Monday 15 November** whether they are vaccinated or not.

Good Practice :

- at Alert Level 3, non-essential visitors should not come onsite
- at Alert Level 2, we continue to strongly recommend that large events and activities do not take place, including those that bring parents and caregivers onsite
- ask that they wear a face covering (this is an expectation for all alert levels when people are out and about)
- physical distancing of two metres is recommended where practicable
- consider whether engagement with parents and caregivers can be held outside rather than inside
- hold meetings which do need to go ahead via Zoom, Teams or similar
- if it is necessary to meet onsite, ensure the room being used is spacious and well ventilated
- ensure hand sanitiser is available indoors
- reiterate that anyone who is not feeling well should not come onto the school site and encourage them to seek advice about getting tested.

This advice will be revisited as NZ moves towards a fully vaccinated education workforce.