

**Monday 6 September 2021**

Kia ora, Mālō e lelei, Parents and Caregivers

It's certainly been an interesting 10 days or so since my last email to you. Our students have continued to make the most of the learning opportunities provided by their teachers while Learning@Home. Our teachers have provided lots of different ways of learning – keeping students engaged and on track especially our seniors. Our pastoral care team of counsellors and deans have been working with Ako teachers in supporting students who have been finding this all a little challenging.

It would be fair to say though, that we are all pleased to hear that we are moving to Level 2 this week. The Prime Minister has announced that schools will have an extra day to prepare for reopening, so **Upper Hutt College will reopen for all students, on Thursday 9 September, starting with Ako time at 8.40am**. There will be NO late start on Friday 10 September.

In starting back, I know it will take a little adjustment for some to get back into the routine of going to school (even waking up before 9am will be challenging for some!). I also know that some students will feel apprehensive about coming back to school, for many different reasons.

Please be reassured that we are aware of all of this (we experienced it last year) and we have great teams of teachers and support staff to help students as they return to learning at school. Our first priority is the students and their safety and wellbeing and we are taking this into account in our planning for the rest of this week, and indeed the rest of the term.

I am waiting for further advice and information from the Ministry of Education but wanted to make sure you were at least aware of our reopening.

Thank you for all of your support and your work with our students and their teachers.

I will be back in touch soon with further information.

Ngā mihi nui

Judith Taylor  
Principal