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Re-introduction of Compulsory Mask Wearing at CSKI

Kia ora koutou

This week we have seen an increase in student absences related to a range of winter illnesses. On average, approximately 100 students have been away from school each day this week. Staff absence due to illness, coupled with the lack of availability of relief teachers, is impacting on normal school operation.

Due to the above circumstances we have made the decision to re-introduce compulsory mask wearing for students, when indoors (with the exception of eating times), as a circuit breaker from Monday 4 July. All staff and visitors are already required to wear masks when at school.

While we acknowledge the increase in absences are not all COVID related, we feel the need to mitigate the situation to reduce disruption to learning and teaching. Those students who have already had COVID will still need to wear a mask. Those students who are on our mask exemption register already will not be required to wear a mask.

We appreciate this decision will come as a relief to many in our community. Equally we are also aware that this may not sit well with everyone. We do appreciate your understanding of the situation and this decision being made in the best interests of the students and staff of our school.

A decision about mask wearing for the beginning of term 3 will be made during the school holidays and communicated prior to commencement of the new term.

Nga mihi

Mark Callaghan - Board Chair

Ross Hastings - Principal