



Sacred Heart College

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School Bus services supported at Alert Level 2

This letter is to update you on what Metlink school bus services will look like under Alert Level 2, in accordance with the guidance received from Ministry of Education and the New Zealand Transport Agency.

Metlink is working closely with all school bus operators so that they can continue to operate a full school bus service during Alert Level 2.

What Metlink is doing:

- Supplying hand sanitiser on board school buses
- Cleaning buses in accordance with Ministry of Health guidelines
- Operating all school bus services

What Sacred Heart College is doing:

- Maintaining a register of students on each school bus for contact tracing purposes
- Ensuring the school community understands the physical distancing requirements, hygiene requirements **before** boarding the bus, and their plan 'B'.
- School staff will manage the after-school boarding of buses from school. This will help ensure that physical distancing can be maintained, and should any students not be able to board the bus, school staff can help the student to make alternative arrangements to get home.

What parents/caregivers need to do:

- Today - complete the survey stipulating what 'school bus route' your student takes
- Have a plan 'B' to get your student to and from school in case the bus is already full
- Ensure that your student understands the physical distancing requirements, hygiene requirements **before** boarding the bus, and their plan 'B'.

General points:

On public services used by students:

- If students are travelling on public bus services they need to adhere to the physical distancing requirements on board that service (window seats only, no standing, and maintaining 2m distance at bus stops)
- If students are travelling on public services please keep a record of travel

On school services:

- **The front door will be used for entrance and exit during Alert Level 2, as 'normal'**. Even though fares are currently free, we ask all students to tag on and off with their Snapper card.

On both school and public services:

- It is not the bus driver's responsibility to maintain or supervise physical distancing on board the bus. Please respect the driver's physical distance when entering and exiting the bus.
- Capacity on bus services will be greatly reduced as no standing is permitted.
- The specific measures Metlink is taking in relation to their public transport network can be found on the Metlink Website. [COVID-19 – News and Important Information, Metlink Website](#)