He tangi te titi He tangi te kaka He tangi hoki ahau

Te hei mauri ora

It is important that everyone in our school community understands that we are **bound** by the Covid -19 required vaccination order (No. 3), and as an integrated school we must also abide by the advice from the Ministry of Education and its guidelines.

We will do our utmost to be respectful of different points of view, and to be aware of the impact of the order, but we are required to ensure compliance where there is a legislated mandate. Whether we agree or disagree, like every other school in the country, we are bound by this order.

The Public Health amendment order will impact our community and create difficulty for some. Regardless of our personal views, this order will come into effect within two weeks and as a community, we need to navigate our way through the challenges. We need to ensure that the heart of Taikura can continue to provide the Special Character education and opportunities we all strive to achieve for our rangatahi.

In answer to a question being asked widely at present around group exceptions or medical exemptions for staff and also how this may affect our events, our understanding is that there will not be an option for group exemptions. There is currently little advice on individual medical exemptions but our understanding is that there are very specific criteria expected by both the Ministries of Education and Health.

This is an unsettling and challenging time for everyone, but let's not lose sight of why we come together around our school every day, and make sure that we keep the lines of communication open and the connections between us strong.

We welcome and encourage feedback and communication from our community on important issues. Being open to feedback and transparent with our community and staff in our decision-making is important.

Please feel free to contact us about any issue of concern.

All correspondence can be directed via suzan.bart@taikura.school.nz

Nau te rourou naku Te rourou ka ora ai Te iwi

Manaakitia mai,

Erin Simpson Taikura School Board Presiding member Sue Simpson Proprietors Trust Chairperson Pippa Caccioppoli Taikura School Principal