

# Rotorua Seventh-day Adventist School COVID-19 Safety Plan - **ORANGE** level

- Updated 18 July 2022



## ✓ **ORANGE**

Schools and kura are **OPEN** for on site learning for all students.



**Face coverings are required on school transport**

for ākongā aged 12 and up.

**Face coverings are encouraged** but not required indoors at school.



**Children with complex medical needs** are encouraged to take additional precautions when leaving home. Parents, caregivers and students will need to work with the school to develop a plan to support attendance on site.



**Staff are able to work across more than one group/class** of students within the school.

Staff such as **itinerant music teachers and relief teachers** will be able to work across different schools.



**Curriculum related activities** - Large activities with students, if they are to go ahead, should take place in well-ventilated areas or outdoors.



**Non-curriculum related events** may only go ahead if a vaccination certificate is required. If bringing others on site, including parents and caregivers, any general rules for events applicable at the time will apply.

Kia ora to our Rotorua Seventh-day Adventist School community,

As you will be aware all schools and kura are open for onsite learning for all students at all Covid Protection Framework stages, just with different levels of protections in place.

As we will be starting TERM 3 in ORANGE Level, it is important that we are clear to everyone what is going to be expected and happening at school.

All of the details below will be in place from the first day of Term 3 (Monday 25th July 2022) for every student, parent and staff member.

These guidelines are part of our expectations and procedures from the Ministry of Education in connection with the Ministry of Health, and backed up by legislation.

Within these expectations, we have made sure that we are keeping our tamariki and staff as safe as possible, and continue to adhere to our school values.

Thank you for your continued support.

Lanea Strickland **Tumuaki/Principal**

<p><b>Attendance</b></p>	<p>School attendance onsite is compulsory by law. When in Orange light, the only exception to this is for those who are having to isolate themselves - because you are a positive case or a household member of a positive case (7 days of isolation is unchanged). For these situations online learning can be utilised by our tamariki.</p> <p>As has been the case for the last 2 years, hygiene practices will continue to be implemented sanitising, washing of hands, and wiping of surfaces. If your child is sick, they are to STAY HOME and get better. This is going to be extra important with the cold and flu season ahead of us, as we head into winter.</p> <p>At Rotorua SDA School, while under RED level, we extended a lot of tolerance and lenience to parents around attendance, however we now need to begin to focus on getting our tamariki back into the classroom. Our tamariki have lost a lot of learning over the last few years and we would encourage parents to only keep their children home if they are required to isolate or if children are sick themselves.</p>
<p><b>Visitors onsite</b></p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Please be aware that <b>all school gates will be locked between 9:05am until 2:50pm</b> to ensure that no one comes onto the school site without going through the school office. This is important in terms of keeping the staff and students safe.</li> <li>• Families are welcome to come into your child’s classroom, but we ask that this is for a short visit rather than lingering and chatting inside for a long period of time, as this increases the risks to our staff and more vulnerable students.</li> <li>• If any family members are unwell with any winter colds or virus, then we ask that you drop off your child at the school gate, until you are well again.</li> </ul>
<p><b>Basic Hygiene</b></p>	<p><u>Wash Hands:</u> Washing hands has been a good strategy in maintaining a healthy environment.</p> <p><u>To promote good practice we will:</u></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Teach good hand washing technique</li> <li>• Wash your hands with soap and water often (for at least 20 seconds) and dry thoroughly. Use an alcohol-based sanitiser and rub hands together if soap and water is unavailable.</li> </ul> <p>Encourage hand washing before and after eating, and after going to the bathroom</p> <p>Encourage hand washing before and after outdoor play</p> <p>Each classroom will have hand washing supplies and hand sanitiser and it will be available throughout the school</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Coughing or sneezing into your elbow or cover your mouth and nose with tissues. Put them in a bin immediately.</li> <li>• Avoid touching your face, including your eyes, nose or mouth if your hands are not clean.</li> <li>• Surfaces may have infectious droplets</li> </ul>
<p><b>Vaccination</b></p>	<p>Getting vaccinated is a key step to gain more protection against the virus. From 1 January 2022, only fully vaccinated staff and support people employed by RSDAS have contact with students. If 183 days have already passed since the person received their</p>

	second vaccination, staff are required to receive their booster dose by 1 March 2022 to be able to continue working in the school.
<b>Sickness</b>	If staff or learners get sick, stay home and get tested. If you have cold, flu or COVID-19 symptoms, stay home. Call your doctor or Healthline on 0800 358 5453 for advice about getting tested. Staff are to observe children on arrival, checking for symptoms. Those presenting as unwell will be asked to go home or arrange for parents or caregivers to come and pick up. These akonga will be sent to the office and be triaged by office staff. Principals at state and state-integrated schools have authority to preclude a student from attending if they believe on reasonable grounds, they may have a communicable disease under section 77 of the Education and Training Act 2020.
<b>Ventilation</b>	Our school has a modern, high spec air conditioning units throughout the main building. They are regularly maintained and monitored. We have 2 MOE CO2 monitors for the Senior and Junior classes which have been given to all state schools to monitor acceptable air quality within our classrooms. We have an MOE air filter machine that we will use in the classroom with the lowest air quality based off our data collected from the CO2 monitors. During elevated times of Covid transmission we are aware that being outdoors is better. We are recommending that teachers plan to use school outdoor spaces and our local environment. We will continue to evaluate risk around the community and balance this in our decision making. Additional measure we might take to increase the circulation of air flow: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Open windows to increase fresh air flow</li> <li>• Open doors to promote cross air breeze</li> </ul>
<b>Case Management</b>	Play it safe. Stay home if you're feeling unwell even if it is mild. Don't come to school and keep unwell children home from school or early childhood education. If you have symptoms of COVID-19, test and remain at home for 7 days if you return a positive result. Any child that presents themselves at school with a runny (snotty) nose, coughing or other flu-like symptoms will be sent home. <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Staff will observe children on arrival, checking for symptoms. Those who present as unwell will have it arranged to be picked up. In a change of protocol, teachers will notify the parents, caregivers and school office.</li> <li>• If a teacher becomes unwell at school they will be required to stay home and carry out a RAT test.</li> <li>• If any child tests positive, parents must notify Lanea Strickland <a href="mailto:principal@sda.rotorua.school.nz">principal@sda.rotorua.school.nz</a></li> </ul>
<b>Students / Staff with complex medical needs</b>	These parents, children and our school leadership team will need to work together to develop plans to support on-site learning for when it is appropriate within the settings of the Covid Protection Framework. Please contact Lanea Strickland <a href="mailto:principal@sda.rotorua.school.nz">principal@sda.rotorua.school.nz</a> to discuss and arrange a plan.
<b>Face Masks</b>	Mask wearing when indoors is highly recommended and while no longer mandated, we want to continue to encourage all our Year 4 (and older) children and staff to wear masks. We will continue to support students and staff who wish to wear masks by providing them in the classrooms and at the office on request. We are aware for a number of reasons that some of our students and families will not be able to wear masks. Our staff respond in a compassionate and supportive way to those who are unable to wear a mask. We ask that in terms of the welfare of our staff around adults without masks, that the one metre physical distance guideline is maintained.

	If we have a covid outbreak in a classroom, we may have need to encourage the children in that classroom to wear masks as a precaution. Parents are welcome onsite from the start of Term 2 (outside of school hours - before and after school) but parents must wear a mask and sign in at the front office.
<b>Physical Distancing</b>	<p>There is no physical distancing requirement between our Senior and Junior classes as RSDAS remains as one group. This will be revisited, however, if a Covid wave gains a stronger presence in our own community.</p> <p>Where possible we will reduce whole school meeting together in close proximity indoors, and encourage meetings outside weather/conditions permitting.</p> <p>The virus that causes COVID-19 is mostly spread in particles that escape from an infected person's mouth or nose when they breathe, speak, cough, sneeze or sing. At whole school assemblies, there will be limited seating at the back of the hall (for parents) that will allow for social distancing - NB: The risk of becoming infected with COVID-19 increases the closer you are to a person and the longer you are close to that person. The risk is highest in crowded and poorly ventilated indoor spaces, and is lower outside, where there are fewer people, and when you are further away from others. To avoid infection, follow physical social distancing guidelines</p>
<b>Technology at Rotorua Intermediate</b>	The Senior students remain a class bubble at Rotorua Intermediate. They are encouraged to wear a mask to and from Technology and also whilst travelling on the school van.
<b>EOTC / School Events</b>	The school is now open to plan trips and camps for our tamariki and we will always follow MoH and MoE guidelines along with our own school's Health and Safety policies. Occasionally there might be venues or facilities that classes may plan to visit that have different Covid safety protocols. We will continue to follow the Ministry of Education guidelines and our own safety protocols. All decisions we need to make will be made with the utmost consideration for tamariki safety.
<b>Visitors</b>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Whānau who are unwell should not be coming onto the school grounds</li> <li>• Social distance is strongly encouraged - keep to 1m apart.</li> <li>• Wearing a mask is strongly encouraged</li> <li>• Before school: Keep out of corridors and classrooms → whānau can drop their tamariki off at the classroom door.</li> <li>• After school: Once tamariki have left the class, whānau can pop into the class to see the teacher and/or their tamariki's school work.</li> <li>• If whānau have a worry and need to see the classroom teacher, make a time after school. This can be organised via email, in person or through the school office. In a emergency, come straight to the School Office.</li> </ul>
<b>Kapa Haka</b>	Kapa Haka will go ahead in either the Senior or Junior. Tamariki will social distance where practically possible.
<b>Health &amp; Safety</b>	<p>Over the past 6 months, scientists, public health officials and school leaders have learned a lot about what risk mitigation strategies have been most effective in reducing the spread of Covid-19. We are guided by the MoH and MoE and acknowledge that as conditions change such as the Omicron variant being in N.Z so can the guidelines.</p> <p>We will continue to update the community as we act in response.</p>

## Resources

Ministry of Health Latest Updates and Advice on Covid-19 <https://www.health.govt.nz/our-work/diseases-and-conditions/covid-19-novel-coronavirus>

Ministry of Health Vaccinations <https://www.health.govt.nz/our-work/diseases-and-conditions/covid-19-novel-coronavirus/covid-19-vaccines> Ministry of Health

Vaccination data by Suburb <https://covid19.govt.nz/alert-levels-and-updates/covid-19-data-and-statistics/covid-19-vaccination-rates-around-new-zealand/>

Ministry of Health Alert Levels <https://www.health.govt.nz/our-work/diseases-and-conditions/covid-19-novel-coronavirus/covid-19-health-advice-public/health-and-disability-services-different-alert-levels>

Ministry of Health Mental Health and Wellbeing <https://www.health.govt.nz/our-work/diseases-and-conditions/covid-19-novel-coronavirus/covid-19-health-advice-public/covid-19-mental-health-and-wellbeing-resources>

Ministry of Health Covid-19 Advice for Higher Risk People <https://www.health.govt.nz/our-work/diseases-and-conditions/covid-19-novel-coronavirus/covid-19-information-specific-audiences/covid-19-advice-higher-risk-people>

Ministry of Health Advice for Parents <https://www.health.govt.nz/our-work/diseases-and-conditions/covid-19-novel-coronavirus/covid-19-information-specific-audiences/covid-19-information-parents>

Ministry of Health Data and Statistics <https://www.health.govt.nz/our-work/diseases-and-conditions/covid-19-novel-coronavirus/covid-19-data-and-statistics>

Kids Health Supporting Children <https://www.kidshealth.org.nz/resources-help-explain-covid-19-children>

Ministry of Education Supporting Children During Lockdown <https://parents.education.govt.nz/essential-information/covid-19-information-for-parents-and-whanau/lockdown-tips-with-dr-hinemoa-elder-and-nathan-wallis/>

Ministry of Education Information for Parents <https://parents.education.govt.nz/essential-information/covid-19-information-for-parents-and-whanau/>

Measure	Orange	Measure	Orange
<b>Face Masks</b>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Masks are strongly encouraged to be worn when indoors.</li> <li>Masks are strongly recommended to be worn at indoor gatherings with large numbers of students.</li> <li>For all ākonga aged 12 years and above, masks are mandatory on school transport.</li> <li>Nurses in schools and other health professionals will need to follow their own industry guidance for using PPE.</li> </ul>	<b>Physical distancing</b>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Physical distancing is strongly encouraged, particularly from people you don't know.</li> <li>In primary settings, if cases are proportionately higher in your community, consider whether classroom groupings are possible to minimise potential spread</li> <li>Activities with large numbers of students, if they are to go ahead, should take place in well-ventilated areas or outdoors.</li> </ul>
<b>Children with complex medical needs</b>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Encouraged to take additional precautions when leaving home.</li> <li>Parents, caregivers and students will need to work with the school to develop a plan to support attendance onsite.</li> </ul>	<b>Physical and cultural activities on site / use of playgrounds</b>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Playgrounds can be used (maintain good hand hygiene).</li> <li>Physical and cultural activities can go ahead on site (all other public health measures must be maintained including good hygiene practices).</li> </ul>

Measure	Orange	Measure	Orange
<b>Curriculum related activities - including technology centres, examinations, assemblies</b>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>You cannot require proof of vaccination.</li> <li>Activities with large numbers of students, if they are to go ahead, should take place in well-ventilated areas or outdoors.</li> <li>If Risk Assessment indicates higher risk for your community, consider how you might limit any large indoor gatherings.</li> </ul>	<b>External students onsite for inter-school activities</b>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Students from other schools are permitted to be on site and must follow all health measures.</li> <li>Large gatherings should be held outdoors or in well ventilated spaces</li> <li>For non-curriculum related activities, schools should follow any rules and guidance for <b>events and gatherings</b>.</li> </ul>
<b>Non-curriculum related events and activities</b>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Activities need to meet the requirements for <b>events and gatherings</b> under the framework when onsite and offsite.</li> <li>There are no indoor capacity limits. You are strongly encouraged to use allocated seating for large events (such as those with more than 500 people) or apply a maximum capacity limit based on the maximum number of people who could occupy the space if each person was one metre apart.</li> <li>Workers at indoor events and gatherings are required to wear masks.</li> <li>The same rules/guidance will also apply if you are hiring out your facilities.</li> </ul>	<b>Visitors</b>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>There are no restrictions, on numbers of visitors on site, but they should be captured in a visitor register as is normal practice.</li> <li>All visitors, including parents and caregivers, if they do come onsite, are strongly encouraged to wear a mask when indoors.</li> <li>They must also meet any other health requirements applicable at the time.</li> </ul>
		<b>Music, instruments, singing etc.</b>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Practices and rehearsals can go ahead – physical distancing of one metre is recommended where practicable especially for higher risk activities such as singing and using wind instruments.</li> </ul>

Measure	Orange
<b>Support services and agencies on site</b> Eg, Ministry of Education, Education Review Office, NZQA, Police, Fire, Mobile Dental units	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>There are no restrictions, but they should be captured in a visitor register as is normal practice.</li> <li>They must also meet any other health requirements applicable at the time.</li> </ul>
<b>Teaching across schools and groups</b>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Staff can work across more than one group/class of students within the school.</li> <li>Staff such as itinerant music teachers and relief teachers will be able to work across different schools.</li> <li>As with all staff, they should closely monitor for symptoms, stay home if unwell, get tested if symptomatic.</li> </ul>