

MISSION HEART and SOUL

To live as part of a Catholic community and respond to our call to follow in the footsteps of Jesus.

"You shall love the Lord your God with all your heart, and with all your soul, and with all your strength, and with all your mind; and your neighbour as yourself" Luke 10:27

EDUCATION HEAD and VOICE

Become confident, connected, actively involved lifelong learners and followers of Christ who are learning through the direction set by the NZ Catholic and NZ Curriculums.

"For the Lord gives wisdom; from his mouth comes knowledge and understanding." Proverbs 2:6-7

SERVICE HANDS and FEET

To live out the Gospel values and make a difference in the world, guided by the Holy Spirit and Catholic social teachings.

"And whatever you do, whether in word or deed, do it all in the name of the Lord Jesus, giving thanks to God the Father through him." Col. 3:15-17

COVID-19 update Tuesday 24 March

Kia ora koutou St Columba's Catholic School Community,

With yesterday's announcement by the government, we are implementing our plan to support your child's learning from home. We appreciate this is a sudden and significant change and will be heavily disruptive to many people in our community.

For our children, we can support learning from your home in this way:

- through online learning Google Classroom and Seesaw...
 - Each class will look different, have different learning activities and structures to support learning. Teachers are experimenting with how this will work for their learners during this unprecedented time.
- parents and caregivers can contact the school if you need supports to access Google Classroom (Yr 3- 8) and Seesaw (all Years 1-8) - contact: Maria Persson - mariap@sccs.school.nz

Please be aware that this learning is not necessarily in `real-time` and teachers will make comments when and where appropriate. Teachers are doing their best in these extraordinary circumstances to cater for up to 30 children in their class.

Parents, caregivers, whānau and teachers will have a particularly important part to play in reassuring children at this time. If you haven't already done so, you may wish to read the information put together by the Ministry of Education to support your conversations with your children – [Talking to children about COVID-19](#)

As noted by the Prime Minister these restrictions are our best chance to slow the virus in New Zealand and to save lives. We all have a clear role here to slow the spread of COVID-19.

The structure of the coming weeks:

- Remainder of this week; teachers in communication with homes regarding learning structures.
- This term finishes this Friday 27th March. The school holidays have been brought forward by two weeks therefore our Term 1 holidays start on Monday 30th March through to Wednesday 15th April.
- As the government states, we continue to be in self-isolation throughout the days above and through to at least 28th April.

While the earliest our school would re-open its doors would be Tuesday 28th April, we await the Government's decision on when our self-isolation period ends.

God bless you all

Gareth Duncan, Principal and Karyn Rastrick, BOT Chairperson