



12 February 2023

Community Update: Cyclone Gabriella

Kia ora e te whānau,

We hope that you and your whānau are safe and dry.

As indicated in our social media posts and on School App earlier today, **Kaipara College will be closed for onsite learning this Monday and Tuesday**. Instead, some work will be available on Google Classroom for Monday the 13th and Tuesday the 14th of February. This is because the Met Service have issued red wind and rain warnings for our region, which at the time of writing, last through to 9pm on Tuesday evening. The latest advice from NEMA (National Emergency Management Agency) is to prepare for road closures and power outages in impacted areas and to avoid unnecessary travel. Therefore, for the safety of our students and staff, we are closing the school for onsite learning and moving to online learning. **This includes all after-school practices and rehearsals**. Like you, we are disappointed that we have yet another major disruption at the start of this year.

Online Learning

Teachers will endeavour to make some work available on Google Classroom for students who can do schoolwork on Monday and Tuesday, and whānau teachers will check in with their students. Students have been sent [this update](#).

Student and staff safety must take priority, so while every effort will be made to provide work, there may be instances where the situation prevents work from being posted or students from completing work.

Unfortunately, we are unable to distribute devices for these two days.

Onsite Closure Review

We will review the situation on Tuesday afternoon and communicate decisions about the rest of the week via email, social media and SchoolApp.

Emergency Information

The following links may be useful to you over the coming days:

[National Emergency Management Agency – Civil Defence](#)
[Auckland Emergency Management | Auckland Emergency Management](#)
[Important Storm Updates: OurAuckland – Auckland Council](#)
[Auckland Emergency Management | Auckland – Facebook](#)

[National Severe Weather Information - MetService](#)
[Emergency preparedness in New Zealand – Get Ready](#)
[What you need to know: How to prepare for an emergency – RNZ News](#)

If you cannot stay in your home tonight, a safe and welcoming space is ready for you at Helensville Primary School. There is food, blankets and mattresses, including bassinets. This is an emergency shelter by the community for the community. There is a phone number listed on the hall door, so if it is closed, call the number listed, and someone will come down and open the hall. More information is available [here](#).

Please don't hesitate to contact your student's whānau teacher, kaitiaki or me if there is something you need assistance with.

Stay safe.

Ngā mihi

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read 'C. Sullivan', with a long horizontal flourish extending to the right.

Cindy Sullivan
PRINCIPAL