



Briefing Note: Distance learning supports for te reo Māori learners – Covid-19 Alert Levels 3 and 2, August 2020

To:	Hon Kelvin Davis, Associate Minister of Education		
Cc:	Hon Chris Hipkins, Minister of Education		
Date:	17 August 2020	Priority:	Medium
Security Level:	In Confidence	METIS No:	1238442
Drafter:	Eileen Paulin	DDI:	s 9(2)(a)
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Messaging seen by Communications team:	No	Round Robin:	No

Purpose of Report

The purpose of this paper is for you to:

- **Note** the distance learning supports the Ministry of Education has prepared to support ākonga in Māori medium pathways and te reo Māori learners through the current Covid Alert Levels 3 and 2 in the Auckland region and nation-wide, respectively. This includes learning packs, Ki te Ao Mārama webpage, television broadcasting on Mauri Reo, Mauri Ora, digital devices, and Kia Manawaroa to keep whānau up to date with key information.
- **Note** key messages for your use should you receive queries from the media or the public, or should you wish to make any announcements about the distance learning supports for ākonga in Māori medium pathways in the Auckland region, in particular.
- **Agree** that this Briefing will be proactively released.

Agree / Disagree

Summary

- The majority of tamariki and rangatahi in the Auckland region are learning from home during Alert Level 3 restrictions, currently due to end on Wednesday 26 August. It is considered safe for tamariki and rangatahi in the rest of the country to continue to attend kura during Alert level 2 restrictions.

- The main learning and teaching delivery mode in the Auckland region during this Alert Level 3 period is distance learning, including online learning and teaching. Learning services in the rest of the country continue to be open for instruction.
- The Ministry of Education is ready to supplement and support learning services where they indicate that support is needed, to ensure that all ākonga in Māori medium pathways have access to learning resources while learning from home.
- Key messages are provided for your use about distance learning supports the Ministry has prepared to provide to kura, ākonga and whānau should these be needed.



Ellen MacGregor-Reid
Deputy Secretary
Early Learning and Student Achievement

17/8/20



Kelvin Davis
Associate Minister of Education

18/8/2020

Background

1. The majority of tamariki and rangatahi in the Auckland region (Tāmaki Makaurau) are learning from home during Alert Level 3 restrictions, currently due to end on Wednesday 26 August. It is considered safe for tamariki and rangatahi in the rest of the country to attend kura during Alert level 2 restrictions, but are advised to stay home if unwell, and to take extra care if immune compromised.
2. All early learning centres, kōhanga reo, puna reo, kura and school sites in Tāmaki Makaurau should be open for whānau who need to send their tamariki to early learning services, kura or schools, unless there is a confirmed or probable case linked with an early learning service, kura or school. In such a scenario the site is closed for a period determined by health authorities. All early learning services, kura and schools are open as usual in the rest of the country.
3. The main learning and teaching delivery mode in Tāmaki Makaurau during this Alert Level 3 period is distance learning, including online learning and teaching. This is led by learning services, who have prepared in the event the country moves up and down alert levels. Leaders and kaiako in early learning services, kura and wharekura have access to their sites, so are able to prepare learning resources, whether hard copy or digital, for contact-less pick-up or delivery. Learning continues to be education service site-based for the rest of the country. The tumuaki, principals and respective rumaki and reo rua leaders, are working with our regional office to identify ākonga, their distance learning needs and how best to meet these in Alert Level 3.
4. The Ministry of Education (Ministry) wants to ensure that all ākonga in Māori medium pathways have access to learning resources while learning from home, that support their learning programmes at kura and school. The Ministry is ready to supplement and support learning services where they indicate our support is needed.
5. During the earlier lockdown, the Tāmaki Makaurau office was in regular communications with regional kura kaupapa Māori and kura ā-iwi, due to long held relationships. Kura kaupapa Māori in Tāmaki Makaurau have been engaging with our regional leadership team as a part of our regional plan for Māori Education. Engagement is higher this round as a result of increased contact with tumuaki by the regional office since the last lockdown. This has further enabled our engagement during Alert Level 3.
6. The regional office realised as a region, during the earlier lockdown that our principals who have dual curriculum responsibilities were feeling swamped with information and that communications specific to their respective Māori medium context were not getting to the appropriate leaders in a timely fashion. The regional office sought targeted engagement with sector leaders of these dual medium settings in the hope to tailor communications specific to Māori medium within English Medium settings. This has seen a significant rise in overall engagement with the Ministry and each other. These settings have met as a regional group and are forming a regional peak body to represent their collective interests. These settings have been active in sharing their needs for Alert Level 3 and sharing what was missed specifically for their ākonga from the previous lockdown.

Distance learning supports for kōhanga reo, puna reo, kura and wharekura

7. The Ministry is well prepared to support kōhanga reo, puna reo and kura with distance learning should they require it, including hard learning packs, online learning, live television broadcasting, digital devices and regular information provision for whānau.

Ki te Ao Mārama learning packs

8. We have prepared learning packs for tamariki and rangatahi in years 1 – 10. There are three hard learning packs covering years 1-4, 5-8, and 9-10. These are intended to supplement the curriculum learning supports provided by kōhanga and puna reo, kura and schools, as well as learning that already happens at home. Te reo o te kāinga is a key driver of the packs, which include information for whānau and ākonga about how to use the packs (bilingual), a range of stationery, activity packs, reading books and te reo Māori learning resources. The general theme for all learning packs is maramataka, and encourages ākonga and whānau to explore hauora.
9. The learning packs are warehoused and ready to be delivered this week. We are prioritising ākonga in decile 1 – 4 kura, schools and wharekura in the Auckland region. The regional office has contacted all 10 kura (nine kura kaupapa Māori and one kura ā-iwi) and English medium schools with L1 and L2 Māori medium settings (36), and we expect most to place an order for learning packs.
10. Kura and schools are able to apply for packs through the Ministry's Salesforce form via the School Data Portal, using their education sector logon. This went live this morning. The Salesforce form will be open for bulk orders until midnight tomorrow, Tuesday 18 August. Packs will be delivered to kura and schools to distribute to their ākonga. Should kura or schools need to apply for individual ākonga after that time they may do so. Should alert levels change to level four, then bulk ordering will not be an option, rather all packs would be couriered directly to ākonga addresses. We are relying on kura and schools to provide accurate address, and year level pack information to ensure ākonga receive learning packs appropriate for their learning stage.
11. Early learning services, including kōhanga and puna reo will also be able to place bulk orders for learning packs using the Ministry's Salesforce form. Te Kōhanga Reo National Trust (National Trust) is contacting kōhanga reo in the Auckland region today and will place a bulk order for kōhanga reo. The National Trust is supporting whānau on wellbeing and welfare matters. They are not so worried about learning packs as many whānau received learning packs during the earlier lockdown. They would like to find way to utilise URF for their whānau. They are happy to work with Ministry to understand how URF can fit into manaakitanga.

Ki te Ao Mārama webpage on Kauwhata Reo

12. Ki te Ao Mārama webpage on Kauwhata Reo continues to provide online learning options for kōhungahunga, tamariki and rangatahi from 0-18 years. There is a range of information and advice for whānau, and learning activities for kōhungahunga, tamariki and rangatahi learning in te reo Māori, and learners of te reo Māori. Regular rauemi uploads were carried out between March and May, and continuous review and refresh of the platform was also completed during this period. New and exciting rauemi content will be updated over the next 2 weeks including whakataukī, animations and downloadable activities for ākonga and whānau to engage with.

Mauri Reo, Mauri Ora

13. Mauri Reo, Mauri Ora live broadcasting is available again from 9am Monday 17 August to Friday 28 August, to support te reo Māori learners aged 0 to 18 years, on Māori Televisions Te Reo Channel, SkyTV 82, Vodafone channel 82 and Freeview Channel 15. Māori Television will be notified on 26 August, whether an extension to air time will be required.
14. Ani-Piki Tuari, Junea Silbery, and Korou Whangataua have returned to host sessions for kōhungahunga, kura tuatahi and wharekura from 9am to 3pm each week day.

Viewing information will be available on Kauwhata Reo and Māori Television. Content will also be available on Māori TV OnDemand, for all te reo Māori learners to enjoy in their own time. Earlier episodes also continue to be available OnDemand.

Support with digital devices

15. Further funding has been made available to purchase the limited stock of computer devices in Aotearoa New Zealand. The devices will cover the current unmet demand in the Ministry's Sales Force ordering system for students in Years 9 and above only, with Tāmaki Makaurau being prioritised first given their Alert Level 3 status.
16. s 9(2)(a) kura in Tāmaki Makaurau have been prioritised to receive devices for ākonga in years 9 – 13. They will be contacted today and tomorrow to confirm requirements and arrange for delivery of the devices to the kura to distribute to their ākonga via contactless pick-up. If the kura is closed due to a positive Covid-19 result, the Ministry will work with the kura to find a safe delivery solution. The Salesforce form is closed to new device requests. The list of kura is set out in Annex 1.

Supports for te reo Māori learners

17. Te reo Māori learners and their whānau are able to enjoy te reo Māori provided through Te Reo Channel, and te reo Māori lessons on Home Learning TV | Papa Kāinga TV. Earlier te reo Māori learning episodes on Home Learning TV | Papa Kāinga TV remain available through TVNZ OnDemand.
18. Secondary school students are able to access te reo Māori learning via ClassroomNZ2020 online courses developed by Te Aho o Te Kura Pounamu (Te Kura), which align with the New Zealand Curriculum (NZC). Wharekura ākonga doing standards derived from the NZC are also able to access learning on NZ2020.

Kia Manawaroa

19. We continue with Kia Manawaroa weekly, to provide whānau across the country with timely information to support their and their tamariki and rangatahi hauora and learning.

Communications

20. Key messages are provided for your use, should you receive queries from the media or the public, or should you wish to make any announcements about the distance learning supports being provided in the Auckland region for ākonga in Māori medium pathways, and te reo Māori learners. These are set out in Annex 2.

Proactive Release

21. We recommend that this Briefing is proactively released as per your expectation that information be released as soon as possible. Any information which may need to be withheld will be done so in line with the provisions of the Official Information Act 1982.

Annexes

- Annex 1: s 9(2)(a)
- Annex 2: Key messages about distance learning supports for ākonga in Māori medium pathways and te reo Māori learners

Annex 2: Key messages and Questions and Answers about distance learning supports for ākonga in Māori medium pathways and te reo Māori learners

Overarching key messages

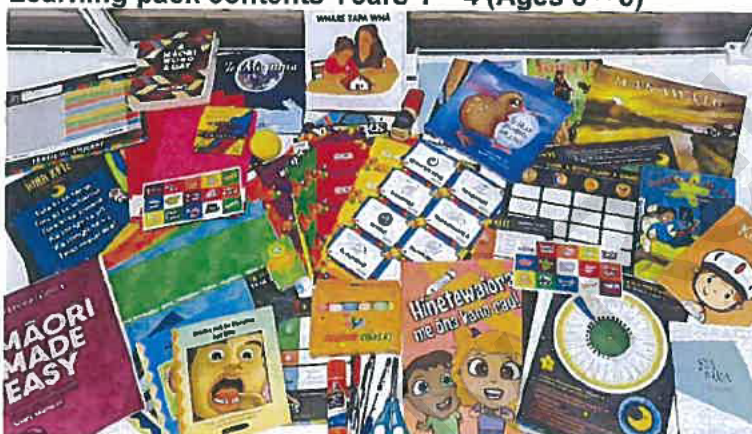
- As our kōhanga reo, puna reo, kura and wharekura in the Auckland region face the challenges in this period of escalation to Covid-19 Alert Level 3, and the priority for all of us is the health and wellbeing of our tamariki, rangatahi and whānau, and our education workforce.
- It's important that all te reo Māori learners are able to continue with their te reo Māori learning journey. We know that Māori students' well-being is strongly influenced by a clear sense of identity, and te reo Māori is a key part of that.
- Early learning services, kura and schools are able to remain open during Alert Level 3, enabling them to prepare and provide their ākonga with hard copy learning materials and devices this time around. The Ministry of education is prepared to support ākonga with distance learning supports should early learning services, kura and schools indicate this support is needed.
- Early learning services, kura and schools are responsible for the education of their ākonga, but there may still be some tamariki and rangatahi who may not have access to the resources provided by their early learning centre or kura, to continue with their learning from home during these new Alert level restrictions. The Ministry of Education will work with early learning services, kura and schools to find out what support they need, and to get the supports to their ākonga.
- With constraints on resources, we are prioritising learning packs to decile 1-4 kura and schools for ākonga in years 1-10, and devices to ākonga in years 9-13.

Ki te Ao Mārama learning packs

- New Ki te Ao Mārama learning packs have been designed for tamariki and rangatahi in kura and wharekura, years 1-10. These have been created to supplement the learning resources ākonga will have received from their place of learning.
- Learning packs for ākonga are being prioritised for the Auckland region given their Alert Level 3 status. Please note that any applications from kura and schools in other regions will not be prioritised in the Salesforce form.
- The packs have been specifically developed for three age groups; years 1-4, years 5-8, and years 9-10. Health and well-being is paramount. These resources aren't created to replace the kaiako or replicate learning in the home, but instead to enable the home to engage in learning in a positive way. It is intended to supplement learning from home through a holistic approach to health and education.
- Supporting te reo o te kāinga is a key driver of the packs. Maramataka is the general theme for all the learning packs, and encourages ākonga and whānau to explore hauora. The packs include:
 - a bilingual information booklet for whānau and ākonga about how to use the pack
 - a range of stationery, activity packs, reading books and te reo Māori learning resources.
- New learning pack resources have also been sourced for kōhungahunga in kōhanga reo and puna reo. These will be made available to kōhanga and puna reo that fit the criteria for equity funding.

- Learning services who need learning packs to supplement learning materials for their ākonga learning from home can apply to the Ministry of Education using the Salesforce form via the Education Data portal, using their education sector login.
- Kura and schools are able to make a bulk order for their ākonga until midnight, Tuesday 18 August. Learning packs will be delivered to kura and schools, to distribute to their ākonga via contactless pick-up or delivery. Should kura and schools need to apply for learning packs for individual ākonga after midnight Tuesday 18 August, they may do so using the Salesforce form.
- Early learning services can also use the Salesforce form to place orders for their tamariki, should they require learning packs. The Kōhanga Reo National Trust is contacting kōhanga reo in the Auckland region and is supporting whānau with wellbeing matters.

- **Learning pack contents Years 1 – 4 (Ages 5 – 8)**



- **Learning pack contents Years 5 – 8 (Ages 9 – 13)**



- Learning pack contents Years 9 – 10 (Ages 13 – 15).



Online learning – Ki te Ao Mārama on Kauwhata Reo

- Ki te Ao Mārama webpage on Kauwhata Reo continues to be available, with a range of information and advice for whānau, and learning activities for kōhungahunga, tamariki and rangatahi from 0-18 years.
- New content is being developed for ākonga and whānau to engage with and will be uploaded over the next two weeks. The range of learning activities, resources and links to resources on other websites for tamariki, rangatahi and whānau from earlier are there to enjoy.

Mauri Reo, Mauri Ora

- The Ministry of Education has partnered again with Māori Television to provide Mauri Reo, Mauri Ora educational television for mokopuna, tamariki, rangatahi, and whānau. We will again be entertained by Ani-Piki Tuari, Junea Silbery, and Korou Whangataua who have returned to host sessions for kōhungahunga, kura tuatahi and wharekura from 9am to 3pm each week day from Monday 17 to Friday 28 August.
- Mauri Reo, Mauri Ora is available on Māori Television's Te Reo Channel (Sky TV 82, Vodafone channel 82 and Freeview Channel 15).
- Viewing information will be available on Kauwhata Reo and Māori Television. Content will also be available on Māori TV OnDemand. Earlier episodes also continue to be available at Māori TV OnDemand.

Supports for te reo Māori learners

- Te reo Māori learners and their whānau are able to enjoy te reo Māori provided through Māori Television's Te Reo Channel, and te reo Māori lessons on Home Learning TV | Papa Kāinga TV.
- Earlier Mauri Reo, Mauri Ora programming, and te reo Māori learning episodes on Home Learning TV | Papa Kāinga TV are available for tamariki, rangatahi and all Aotearoa New Zealanders through Māori TV OnDemand and TVNZ OnDemand to enjoy in their own time, as often as they choose.

Support with digital devices

- Further funding has been made available to purchase the limited stock of computer devices in Aotearoa New Zealand. The devices will cover the current unmet demand

in the Ministry's Sales Force ordering system for students in Years 9 and above only, with the Auckland region being prioritised first given their Alert Level 3 status. Please note that the Salesforce form is closed to new device requests.

- The devices will be kura resources to distribute to their ākonga via contactless pick-up or delivery.
- The Ministry is contacting kura (with ākonga in years 9 – 13) today and tomorrow to confirm requirements and arrange for delivery of the devices to kura. If the kura is closed due to a positive Covid-19 result, the Ministry will work with the kura to find a safe delivery solution.
- For other eligible kura and schools across Aotearoa New Zealand, the priority in the next few days is to support Tāmaki Makaurau, and someone from the distance learning team will be in touch in coming days, once we have been able to sort shipments in Tāmaki Makaurau.