



MT ROSKILL INTERMEDIATE SCHOOL

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12 February 2023

Kia Ora koutou,

Notification of School Closure in anticipation of Cyclone Gabrielle

It is clear that we are facing a severe and widespread event with heavy rain warnings, associated flooding, high winds and power outages. We know you will likely have been following reports, including the need for people to avoid unnecessary travel and to shelter in place if possible.

The Ministry of Education has advised that Boards and Principals are in the best position to decide when it is safe for on-site teaching and learning or to close because of the weather emergency and the need to reduce traffic on roads.

Having considered this decision, **Mt Roskill Intermediate School has decided to close the school on Monday 13th and Tuesday 14th February.**
At this stage, the school will reopen for onsite learning on Wednesday 15th February

We take the safety of our students, families and staff very seriously.

The decision to close until any anticipated risk from Cyclone Gabrielle has passed is based on the following additional risk factors:

1. The risk of shattering windows in a high risk wind zone
2. The risk of fallen trees in a high risk wind zone
3. The recent impact of flooding from the Oakley Creek and remaining high creek levels
4. The inability to evacuate quickly due to the closure of our Denbigh Ave bridge and limited vehicle access to the school
5. The severe impact of the recent flooding on our school community
6. The risk of students, families and staff travelling to and from the school

The most recent advice (9:00 am **Sunday 12 February**) we have received from NEMA is to:

- prepare for road closures in impacted areas
- prepare for power outages in impacted areas
- do not wait for an evacuation order to move to safety
- secure any loose items
- clear stormwater drains
- avoid unnecessary travel.

We will move to online learning Monday and Tuesday, for those who are able to do so. Your Teachers will make contact with their classroom on Monday. Please have your child check their school email for instructions. Initial learning is available via the following link on our school website.

[Distance Learning document can be found HERE](#)

We will continue to keep you updated with any changes or new information via email, our website and school app.

Please continue to keep up to date with weather and emergency management updates via local Civil Defence updates and the emergency management web pages listed below;

Useful links for you on the evolving situation:

[Auckland severe weather: What support is available and where can you get help – NEMA](#). (On this page you can find information in alternative formats: Large print, easy read, audio and Braille.)

[National Emergency Management Agency – Civil Defence](#)

[Auckland Emergency Management | Auckland Emergency Management](#)

[Important Storm Updates: OurAuckland – Auckland Council](#)

[Auckland Emergency Management | Auckland – Facebook](#)

Please take care and stay safe, we look forward to seeing everyone back on site once it is safe to do so.

Mt Roskill Intermediate School



Kristen Walsham
Principal - Tumuaki



Kerry Martin
Board Chairperson