



Tuesday 24 March

Dear Riverdale Whanau,

This morning we greet you in a time of history that is unprecedented in our generation. First and foremost, we all need to take this time to connect and support each other. What an opportunity to take a breath and be together as a family, in order to keep ourselves and others safe in Aotearoa. You will have lots of time with your whanau over the next 4 weeks. Please remember that 2 weeks of this time is school holidays for both staff and students. This is designed for students to have a break.

The Riverdale Way

We would emphasise that children of all levels learn best when following their own curiosity, questions and wonderings. This leads to self driven learning through play and investigation. The absolute best thing you can do while your children are following their own curiosities, is to give them the resources they need to follow through.

Use our Te Ako Ritenga learning process (children are very familiar with this) and make the learning fun and self driven.



Distance Learning at Riverdale School

What should we be doing?

Please remember your job is not to be your child's teacher. Each day at school, children do not do 'book work' from 9-3, but rather they have small allocated blocks of teacher directed learning supported by self directed learning (SDL). We are suggesting that you plan your day consisting of book work from our resources and online websites followed by rich activities and experiences.

These experiences could include but not limited to;

Play Board Games	Read Books	Baking	Create and Make	Nature Programs
Sleepover in the lounge organise	Paint a room in the house	Write a letter	Make a Shelf	Learn to use tools

You have the time to be creative! Design your own rich curriculum or use ours for guidance.

How could this work or be planned for? Here is an example of a daily plan...

Time	Task/Activity/Experience
7am-9am	Morning routines - As normal: followed by a family breakfast that is possibly made together. Talk about the day and short term/long term goals.
9am - 10am	'Plugged Activity' - Look at the tasks online together and choose one or two tasks to complete. Be there as support when needed. Focus time.
10am - 11am	Break/Snack/Walk/Exercise
11am - 1pm	'Unplugged Activity' - Look at ideas provided online or introduce your own creative idea. Have fun! Follow our learning process together.
1pm - Onwards	Personal Projects and Experiences - Carry on with personal special projects and experiences.

What if I do not have a device? What do I do?

Today we have delivered a copy of our distance learning to those families that we know don't have access to a device or access to the internet. Look in your letterbox later today.

We will also have a plastic box at the front door of our School, with Year Level labels on it with the 'Unplugged' and 'Plugged' versions (ie photocopied).

Please only use this resource if you are unable to access the internet. Remember to maintain a safe distance from others and wash your hands thoroughly before and after handling the box.

Where can I Access this 'Distance Learning'?

Digital links can be accessed via the children's class blogs/websites. There will be a link/button labelled 'Distance Learning'. There you will find the 'Plugged' and 'Unplugged' learning activities/experiences.

Hard Copies can be found at the Riverdale School Entrance in a plastic box.

The next distance learning package update will be Wednesday 15 April following the "School Holiday Break".

Please take care of yourselves and each other. We look forward to seeing you all back safe and sound.

Kind Regards

Debra Peck

