



## COVID-19 Update #6 to Wee Nippers Community

23 March 2020

### To our Wee Nippers Community

This afternoon, Prime Minister Jacinda Ardern announced that New Zealand is now at Level 3 on the [4 Stage Alert System for COVID-19](https://covid19.govt.nz/government-actions/covid-19-alert-system/) and moving to Level 4 in 48 hours.

Level 4 necessitates the forced closure of all schools including early learning services like Wee Nippers.

Wee Nippers in Invercargill and Mosgiel will have staff on-site to look after **essential service employee's children only** on Tuesday 24 March and Wednesday 25 March. The Centres will be fully closed from midnight Wednesday 25 March. If you are an **essential service employee and have not yet spoken with Nat or Rachel**, please contact them. (A list of essential support workers can be found here: <https://covid19.govt.nz/government-actions/covid-19-alert-system/>)

We will continue to follow Government and Ministry advice on when they require Wee Nippers to close and when we can reopen. **There will be no fees or meal charges while we are required to close due to COVID-19.** Due to the ever-changing nature of this situation, this will be reviewed on a fortnightly basis and may change should circumstances require.

At the same time, we have given our team the undertaking that they will be paid while we are in closedown. This will ensure that when we reopen, we will be ready to look after your children when you, like us, need to have the foundations of our usual lives in place.

We will advise our provisional reopen date as soon as we have that information.

So that we can keep you informed, please **make sure that if your contacts have changed at all, that they are updated with Kim or Marie**. You can do this by emailing [manger.mosgiel@weenippers.co.nz](mailto:manger.mosgiel@weenippers.co.nz) or [manager.invercargill@weenippers.co.nz](mailto:manager.invercargill@weenippers.co.nz).

As ever, if you have any questions, please contact Nat, Rachel, Simone or George, by phone, txt or email. And please go to <https://covid19.govt.nz/> for links to all the official government info and advice.

We are incredibly grateful to our team who have kept life and routines as normal as possible for our children these past weeks. Thank you also to those who have volunteered to be available for the children of essential workers on Tuesday and Wednesday. Just as for us adults, keeping our usual routines and maintaining our connections with others is so important for our wellbeing.

Take care of yourselves and check in by phone on people over 70 years of age and those with compromised immunity. We're all in this together.

Nga mihi

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### Quick links:

[www.COVID19.govt.nz](https://www.COVID19.govt.nz)

[COVID-19 \(novel coronavirus\): Ministry of Health website](https://www.health.govt.nz/covid-19)

[COVID-19 \(novel coronavirus\): Information for Early Learning Services](https://www.health.govt.nz/covid-19)

<http://www.weenippers.co.nz/news/covid-19-updates/>