

Dear Whanganui region Schools,

Due to the unprecedented COVID-19 situation, from 24<sup>th</sup> March 2020, Whanganui DHB Community Oral Health Services will be changing our model of care in line with recommendations made by the Ministry of Health and Dental Council of New Zealand.

Until further notice, we will be able to only provide **urgent care** for enrolled children in the Whanganui region. This means we will not be carrying out examinations at schools from tomorrow. We have also cancelled all non-urgent appointments and will only provide urgent care that does not cause aerosol. The care provided may include assessment, x-ray, hand-excavation, temporary dressings, extractions, prescriptions as required.

We will have a fixed dental clinic site open for children requiring relief of pain. Initial enquiries from parents must be directed to Barbara Dewson, Clinical Manager Oral Health phone / text 027 2299614.

Please would you kindly include the above two paragraphs in your school newsletters as soon as possible.

Also please don't hesitate to contact me if you have further questions about the care of our children. You can contact me on [barbara.dewson@wdhb.org.nz](mailto:barbara.dewson@wdhb.org.nz)

Kind regards,

Barb Dewson