



August 14th, 2020

COVID 2.0 What today's announcement means for QRC

Good afternoon,

While it has been a week of mixed emotions – frustration, disappointment & irritation at the return of COVID-19 within the NZ community, it is also important to feel positive & hopeful given we have already successfully weathered the impact of this virus once before.

Factual information and clear understanding are essential to help process how these unavoidable lifestyle changes may impact our day to day activities. We will endeavour to be in contact frequently to keep you updated to changes in operational planning here at QRC.

The smooth transition up to level 2 was a convenient reminder on protocol and behaviour requirements and we encourage you to undertake the responsibility of good citizenship as a priority. Now that we know we are moving to level 3 as of Monday 17th August please read on to learn more about how this affects your study. There is a lot of information but please take the time to stay well informed.

 **Alert Levels:** The outline of expectations at level 3 for education are as follows: *tertiary education facilities open for limited activities involving small groups (up to 10 people), and with distance learning provision for others while the general summary for the movement of people is stay at home, other than for essential personal movement, and going to work/school. Stay in extended bubble, which can now include close family or caregivers.*

Our expectation is that students will remain in their current term time residence and we will revert to online learning for the duration of level 3.

 **Online Classroom Delivery:** The academic team will take a teacher only day on Monday to help prepare and reorganise their course content for online delivery. The current timetable will be reconfigured to best support effective remote study and this will be released on a week by week basis for the duration of level 3. Please check regularly to ensure you are in the right virtual class at the right time! We understand online learning is not a forum that best suits everyone's learning style. It is therefore important that you proactively work with academic staff and student services to identify problems early and seek the necessary support.

If you are currently in terms 1 or 5 and therefore new to online delivery we will be utilising the software programme Zoom. Please prepare for online delivery by downloading this free software. Your tutors will send calendar invites with links to the classes. Lessons will be for 30 mins online followed by self-directed activities.

Continue to engage and make the most of the opportunity to continue with your learning & understand that the ability to adapt and absorb change is very much part of the learning curve. If you are residing with fellow classmates – studying together

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in a classroom environment will help to facilitate the learning discipline and hopefully boost morale.



Practical Classes: Will be temporarily put on hold at level 3 and rescheduled so that full learning outcomes are achieved once we revert to on-campus learning.



Accommodation: At level 3, halls of Residence can remain open and given we are currently mid-term, both QRC Lodge and Shotover Lodge will remain fully operational as primary places of residence. As such all regular charges will remain unchanged.

For those students residing at QRC Lodge – we are currently working on a plan for catering to reduce the dependency on external take-outs / supermarket visits. We envisage all meal requirements will be provided and will keep you updated on how this will be rolled out before Monday.

Your place of residence, be it a lodge or private flat is your 'bubble'. It is imperative that you stick to this to make level 3 worthwhile. You should only be leaving your place of residence for essential reasons such as:

- Visit to medical facility
- Visit to Pharmacy
- Supermarket
- Exercise

Essential activity is not going for a drive, visiting other flats / residencies. It is also important to minimise the number of people undertaking essential trips. If you are going to the supermarket, please consider doing the shopping for your whole flat or a handful of friends. In the lodges, there will be a degree of freedom within the bubble, but this will be revoked if not respected.

If you are considered an essential worker and need to leave your primary place of residence for work, please let the lodge manager know immediately. If you reside in a private flat, you should consciously be trying to remain apart from other flat members.

No guests or visitors are allowed into the lodges. A curfew will also be actioned from 10pm – 7am to ensure strict adherence to the level 3 restrictive measures.



Good Citizenship: The effectiveness of these restrictive measures relies on every member of the team of 5 million playing their part. If you are sick or symptomatic you must stay in your room and call Healthline: 0800 611 116 to explain your symptoms. Please inform Healthline that you are student & of your living situation. If you are required to get a test, please do so and then self-isolate until your results are provided. Please inform QRC by emailing lynsey.bullock@qrc.ac.nz and also the lodge managers if you reside at QRC Lodge or Shotover Lodge. Provision for self-isolation at both lodges will be made.

Remember in level 3 you are only allowed to travel once in one direction. You will not be able to come and go from Queenstown. Please familiarise yourself once again with the restrictions in place at [LEVEL 3](#)

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 **Keeping Positive:** We have done it once and we can do it again. It is a challenge and an inconvenience but one that we cannot change and therefore must accept. You do however get to choose what you make of the coming weeks. Remember a million students have been displaced for normal study practice so you are not alone right now. There may be times when the situation becomes challenging beyond your means of coping and it is important to remember that there is help. Some great online resources include: www.allright.org.nz/campaigns/getting-through-together & www.thelowdown.co.nz. I am also available to discuss any concerns as is Kirsty, programme leader so please do not hesitate to be in touch.

▶▶ Continue to do the basics well.

- Hand Hygiene
- If sick stay away from others and get tested
- Self-Isolate
- Face Coverings
- Sneeze / Cough into your elbow
- Stick to the rules

We hope this information is helpful to you but as always, if you feel we have missed anything pertinent then just be in touch and we will work to get answers for you. Please share information with parents & whanau as we appreciate they like to stay informed at times like this. We will be in touch regularly so please remember to check your emails.

Kind regards

A handwritten signature in blue ink, appearing to read 'Charlie Phillips'.

Charlie Phillips
CEO