

# Thames High School

Te Kura Tuarua o Te Kauaeranga



*Kia kōtahi ai te piki ake, kia ikeike rawa ki te taumata / We grow together to achieve one's true potential.*

## Whānau Pānui

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**3 November 2021**

Kiā ora e te whānau

### Vaccination opportunity

[Thames Medical Centre](#) at 817 Rolleston Street, a short walk away from the school, is offering a **walk-in opportunity** for vaccinations on **Thursday 4 November** from **10 am to 2 pm**. You do not need to be a patient of Thames Medical Centre as they are a registered Vaccination Centre.

We have heard from several parents asking if students can get vaccinations during the school day? **Yes, they can!** We thank those parents who have advised the school of bookings and we simply ask that normal procedures of signing out and in are followed.

To take up this opportunity at the Thames Medical Centre we encourage a student's parent or caregiver to **accompany them** to the centre or **provide written consent to leave school for this purpose** by note or email to [studentsupport@thameshigh.school.nz](mailto:studentsupport@thameshigh.school.nz) Please send this by Wednesday 3 November so we can advise the centre how many people are expected.

If you are feeling anxious, Thames Medical Centre have trained staff will support you and have the resources to accommodate for every need that may arise. If you want to go as a family or have a support person with you during this time, this is encouraged. They have also offered to have a registered doctor at school if you wish to talk to someone confidentially, or our school nurse Tracey Hilt is also available.

Thames High School have agreed that they will release students in support of this vaccination. All that we require is consent for them to leave the school. They will receive a Covid 19 pass to go to the medical centre and then return to school.

If your child is over the age of 16 no consent is needed, and they are free to go and receive this vaccination.

As a school we are offering this service during school time, to try to reduce any time limitations that families have during a normal school day and week.

Thames Medical Centre have also offered to have a registered nurse on site, if you wish to discuss in more detail any concerns your or your whanau may have.

I have responded to several queries about consent. The [rules about consent for vaccinations](#) will be always followed by the school.

Here are two references about health consent in general:

- <https://www.occ.org.nz/childrens-rights-and-advice/health-rights/>
- <https://www.healthnavigator.org.nz/health-a-z/i/informed-consent/>

These guides explain the concept of informed consent, parental rights, and the rights of the individual. This is something of which we must always be aware as we have a registered nurse and doctor service in the school, and I am really pleased that we can offer professional health support to young people.

Ngā manaakitanga

Michael Hart

**Tumuaki / Principal**

