The below framework is a prepared response to the **Cook Islands 4 – level COVID-19 Alert System**. The Alert system is led by Te Marae Ora Ministry of Health and is aligned with New Zealand’s system where each Alert Level describes the different measures required.

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>ALERT LEVEL 1: PREPARE</th>
<th>ALERT LEVEL 2: REDUCE</th>
<th>ALERT LEVEL 3: RESTRICT</th>
<th>ALERT LEVEL 4: LOCKDOWN</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td><strong>COVID-19 is not present in the Cook Islands and is controlled in New Zealand with no community transmission.</strong></td>
<td><strong>COVID-19 is not present in the Cook Islands but there is a case of community transmission in New Zealand.</strong></td>
<td><strong>COVID-19 has been detected in the Cook Islands and community transmission may be occurring.</strong></td>
<td><strong>There is more than one case of COVID-19 in the Cook Islands and community transmission may be occurring.</strong></td>
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</tbody>
</table>
| - Quarantine-free travel (QFT) between NZ and the Cook Islands is permitted, providing travelers have spent a minimum, of 14 days in either country before travel.  
- Stay home if you’re sick, report flu-like symptoms to TMO.  
- Wash and dry hands thoroughly, cough into elbow, don’t touch your face.  
- People are encouraged to maintain a record of where they’ve been if they haven’t registered for Cook safe or downloaded the Cook Safe + contact tracing app.  
- No restrictions on gatherings, workplaces or services, but organisers are encouraged to maintain records of attendees to enable contact tracing. | - Self-Isolation and quarantine may be required for some arrivals until negative test results received.  
- There will be intensive targeted testing and contact tracing of arrivals.  
- Travel to the Pa Enua is restricted.  
- Maintain physical distancing of 2 metres from people in public spaces, and 1 metre in workplaces where practical.  
- All educational facilities remain open.  
- Businesses can remain open if maintaining physical distancing and contact tracing.  
- Face-coverings encouraged on public transport and aircraft. Children under 12 are exempt.  
- No more than 100 people permitted at gathering (including weddings and funerals).  
- Restaurants, bars and hospitality businesses must keep groups of customers separated, with maximum 100 people at a time. | - Two-way QFT and passenger arrival suspended for a minimum of 72 hours.  
- Intensive targeted testing of recent arrivals and close contacts from previous 14 days.  
- Self-Isolation and quarantine required for recent arrivals for a minimum of 7 days.  
- Closure of all educational facilities, churches, sport and social activities and other non-essential services for 72 hours.  
- People instructed to stay home in their bubble other than for essential personal movement for a minimum period of 72 hours.  
- People must work from home unless that is not possible.  
- Pa Enua travel is highly restricted.  
- Gatherings of up to 10 people allowed but only for funerals or weddings. | - People must stay home in their bubbles other than for essential activities, including work.  
- Businesses closed except for essential services (example supermarkets, pharmacies, clinics, petrol stations) and lifeline utilities.  
- Domestic/Pa Enua travel is severely limited.  
- Two-way QFT and passenger arrivals suspended for a minimum of 14 days.  
- Intensive targeted testing of recent arrivals and close contacts from previous 14 days.  
- Self-Isolation and quarantine required for recent arrivals for a minimum period of 14 days.  
- Face coverings mandatory with physical distancing and hygiene practices maintained outside your bubble  
- All gathering cancelled and all public venues and non-essential businesses closed.  
- All educational facilities closed. |
|------------------------------------------|------------------------------------------|------------------------------------------|------------------------------------------|
| COVID-19 is not present in the Cook Islands and is controlled in New Zealand with no community transmission.  
  - Education sector takes lead from TMO and all education facilities are open.  
  - QFT travel between NZ and the Cook Islands for the purpose of official duty travel is taken in line with Public Service requirements.  
  - QFT travel between NZ and the Cook Islands for rest and recreation is taken in line with leave policies and at traveler’s own risk.  
  - Unwell staff and students are to remain at home, following TMO guidelines.  
  - Contact tracing App active and in use across all education facilities.  
  - All visitors welcomed to education facilities and requested to tag in.  
  - Hygiene measures reinforced across all education facilities – including regular wiping down of surfaces and items, and sanitizing. | COVID-19 is not present in the Cook Islands but there is a case of community transmission in New Zealand.  
  - Education sector takes lead from TMO and all education facilities are open.  
  - Self-isolation and/or quarantine may be required for all staff and students who have traveled internationally until negative test results received.  
  - Official duty travel to and from the Pa Enua restricted.  
  - Unwell staff and students are to remain at home, following TMO guidelines.  
  - Increased monitoring of student and staff absences.  
  - Contact tracing App active and in use across all education facilities.  
  - School visitors, walk-in’s may be restricted. All visitors are requested to tag in and physical distance, where appropriate.  
  - Hygiene measures reinforced across all education facilities – including regular wiping down of surfaces and items, and sanitizing. | COVID-19 has been detected in the Cook Islands and community transmission may be occurring.  
  - Education sector takes lead from TMO and all education facilities are closed for 72 hours, or as directed by TMO.  
  - International travel suspended.  
  - Pa Enua travel restricted.  
  - Self-isolation and/or quarantine required for all staff and students who have traveled internationally as stipulated by TMO.  
  - Learning During COVID-19 Alert Level 3 activated - Home learning resources distributed by schools and tertiary providers, in line with TMO guidelines.  
  - NCEA examinations and assessments continue, and guided by NZQA Alert Level 3 requirements.  
  - Pastoral care processes active including 0800 3333 free hotline established for all school aged students and staff to access counselling support. | There is more than one case of COVID-19 in the Cook Islands and community transmission may be occurring.  
  - Education sector takes lead from TMO and all education facilities are closed.  
  - International travel suspended.  
  - Pa Enua travel severely limited.  
  - Self-isolation and/or quarantine required for all staff and students who have traveled internationally as stipulated by TMO.  
  - Learning During COVID-19 Alert Level 4 activated - Home learning resources distributed by schools and tertiary providers, in line with TMO guidelines.  
  - NCEA examinations and assessments are suspended due to school closures. NZQA will inform of alternative date options for any region experiencing Alert level 4.  
  - Pastoral care processes active including 0800 3333 free hotline established for all school aged students and staff |
For further enquires, contact Planning & Development Director - [PDDirector@education.gov.ck](mailto:PDDirector@education.gov.ck)

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<tr>
<th>No restrictions on professional development opportunities, large scale national education events or school/ sporting events. Organizers will enable contact tracing or maintain records of attendees.</th>
<th>Regular check-ins with scholarship students, and impacted staff.</th>
<th>COVID preparedness revisited for schools, providers and HQ.</th>
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<td>NCEA examinations and assessments continue, and guided by NZQA requirements.</td>
<td>Professional development opportunities, large scale national education events or school/ sporting events postponed.</td>
<td>MoE specific DRM policies and guidelines re-evaluated, if needed.</td>
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<tr>
<td>0800 3333 free hotline established for all school aged students and staff to access counselling support.</td>
<td>Essential staff only working from MoE HQ – with PPE and physical distancing practices in place.</td>
<td>Re-evaluated school academic calendar, if required.</td>
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<td>MoE specific DRM policies and guidelines re-evaluated, if needed.</td>
<td>Work from home arrangements for non-essential MoE HQ staff.</td>
<td>MoE specific DRM policies and guidelines re-evaluated, if needed.</td>
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<td>Surfaces and items, sanitizing. Restrictions on professional development opportunities, large scale national education events or school/ sporting events may be applied, upon advice from TMO. NCEA examinations and assessments continue, and guided by NZQA Alert Level 2 requirements. Pastoral care processes active including 0800 3333 free hotline established for all school aged students and staff to access counselling support. Regular check-ins with scholarship students, and impacted staff. MoE specific DRM policies and guidelines re-evaluated, if needed. COVID preparedness revisited for schools, providers and HQ.</td>
<td>Essential staff only working from MoE HQ – with PPE and physical distancing practices in place. Work from home arrangements for all non-essential MoE HQ staff – Activating ‘Home Bubble’. Re-evaluated school academic calendar, if required. MoE specific DRM policies and guidelines re-evaluated, if needed. COVID preparedness revisited for schools, providers and HQ for Alert Level 4.</td>
<td>to access counselling support. Regular check-ins with scholarship students, and impacted staff. Professional development opportunities, large scale national education events or school/ sporting events cancelled. Work from home arrangements for all MoE HQ staff. Re-evaluated school academic calendar, if required. MoE specific DRM policies and guidelines re-evaluated, if needed.</td>
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