



BUCKLAND SCHOOL BOARD OF TRUSTEES

TERM 2 NEWSLETTER 2020

AGRICULTURAL DAY 2020

OUR PURPOSE AND KEY CONSIDERATIONS:

To safely allow Ag Day 2020 to continue in some form taking into account the current Covid19 environment.

The key consideration by which we will be guided in the first instance is Health & Safety. Currently we are at Alert Level 2 and the information we have to go on at this stage is that L2 will be with us for some time. For the sake of this decision we must assume that Ag Day will be held at L2.

While we are currently only allowed gatherings of 10 people, hopefully in the future this may be increased to a maximum of 100 people under L2. Gatherings are restricted to 2 hours with high hygiene standards, min 1m distancing and contact tracing of all attendees.

The second consideration is to try and maintain Ag Day in some form for the children. In a difficult and trying year when many events are being cancelled, maintaining some sort of normality and enjoyment for our students is important.

Thirdly the financial positions of our community and businesses must be considered.

OUR DECISION:

The BoT has decided to remove all the fundraising and sponsorship portion of Ag Day bearing in mind the hardship of many, from businesses being closed and jobs lost. The day attracts many more people than the upper limit to L2 and it is agreed that contact tracing and social distancing this many people is too difficult to achieve. Therefore, the decision has been made that Ag Day 2020 in its normal manner cannot continue.

CAN THERE BE SOME THINGS RETAINED?

The BoT has agreed that in an effort to maintain some consistency for children and for those that are wanting to complete their participation badges there is a way for this to happen.

The following rules will be set in place to allow the rearing and judging of animals to continue. In addition to this we will add another option which may be around gardens, horticulture or a project to the list of items you can achieve your participation badge in. This would be judged from photo/video/slideshow by an independent judge on the day.

PARTICIPATION RULES:

The understanding by all participants that at any stage, with guidance from the Ministry of Education and the Ministry of Health, the BoT can at its sole discretion cancel the attendance and judging of animals. Please keep in mind these requirements may change as guidelines may change so this plan will be reviewed periodically. Our school community will be asked for an early indication on how many participants we would have under this plan and from there a suitable day would be agreed upon. Depending on the animal breed, age group and number of participants the day would proceed as following:

- You will be divided into groups prior to the day.
- You will be allocated a 15min timeframe of when you must arrive at school. You can only bring your immediate family members. No more than... (tbc)
- Everyone entering onsite will be required to complete and sign contact tracing requirements before driving down into the staff carpark or adjacent grounds.
- There will be a handwashing and sanitising station set up that you must go through immediately.
- Distancing requirements of 2m between your family and others must always be kept.



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- Make your way to your relevant judging area (this may be set up different from other years) keeping your distancing from all others.
- Complete your leading, calling, and overall judging requirements.
- After your group has all completed this, there will be a tally of scores, the results and ribbons will then be given in the ring.
- You must then exit the school grounds by a given time to allow this process to happen for any following groups. On exit you will be required to complete your contact tracing form.
- Depending on the relevant restrictions at the time, even if you have another student competing at a later time on the given day, you will be required to leave school in between the events to allow for other groups. We will try and group families as much as possible.
- If the rules on the day are not followed the event will be closed immediately.

We appreciate your help in trying to maintain this aspect for our students. We also would like to acknowledge the huge effort by the PTA in organising Ag Day each year. Although it isn't happening for 2020 we encourage you all to join up, support and participate in your PTA as they still have funds available and there will be some awesome opportunities to provide some extra special events/experiences and equipment/resources for each of our kids this year to make up for things they have missed out on.