



Kia ora koutou

The Prime Minister today confirmed Cabinet's decision to keep the country at the Red traffic light setting for the time being, with the next review on Thursday 14 April.

This decision means the [University's Red Plan](#) remains in force, including the requirement to wear face masks when indoors in public areas and in teaching and learning.

Vaccination policy revoked

We have revoked the Covid-19 Vaccination and Testing Policy, in accordance with the Government's recent announcement to end requirements for vaccine passes.

This change comes into effect at 11.59pm tonight, Monday 4 April, and means that from tomorrow students, staff and visitors to our campuses will no longer be required to have a valid *My Vaccine Pass*. There remain some exceptions to this rule, particularly for University activities where Government vaccine mandates still apply, which are [outlined on the website](#).

Return to campus on 2 May

With less than a month to go, a sense of excitement is building among students and staff for our return to campus after the mid-semester break. A reminder that the details of our teaching and learning settings from 2 May are [available on the website](#).

I know that some of you will be feeling cautious about the return to campus at a time when Omicron is still expected to be in the community. The health, safety and well-being of our community remains our priority, and we are ensuring that effective health precautions are in place for the return to campus on 2 May, including the requirements for mask wearing outlined above and enhanced ventilation in our buildings.

In addition, students who feel they have good reasons for not returning to campus due to a particular vulnerability are able to have their situation individually assessed by [completing an online form](#). This is the same process we have used very successfully in past returns to campus. We will be launching a similar process for PhD students this week.

Ngā mihi nui
Dawn

Professor Dawn Freshwater
Vice-Chancellor