

HEALTH, SAFETY AND WELLBEING E-UPDATE

November 2021

Kia ora koutou

Welcome to “level 3 stage 2 as a precursor to traffic light red but only if all DHBS hit 90% double-vaccination”... I think I’ve got that right!

You would be forgiven for being confused as to what that means in terms of what you’re allowed (or not) to do as an individual, so spare a thought for the various teams at the University who have to make sense of it all in terms of policy, strategy and practice in trying to plan and deliver our various services and outputs. Our Leadership, Incident Management and Business Continuity Teams have flexed and pivoted at every Government and Ministry announcement, and have done a great job balancing the need to keep us “legal” with doing essential work; limiting campus access to a sensible and safe minimum. It has been frustrating for us all – none of us envisaged that it would last for so long – but hopefully we can now see a way forward.

Update on COVID-19 vaccination and testing policy

Thank you for your feedback in September; however the draft policy on which we consulted was quickly superseded by events at national level. Focus is now on implementing a new position adopted by the University: [University of Auckland confirms Covid-19 vaccination policy](#)

Reminder on Vice-Chancellor’s award for excellence in HSW

Nominations are open now and will close on Friday 12 November 2021

As mentioned in our September e-update, five Vice-Chancellor’s Excellence Awards for professional staff may be given each year. In addition, there are two Vice-Chancellor’s Excellence Awards which professional staff may also be nominated for along with academic staff and students; one of these additional categories is in health, safety and wellbeing. These awards complement the existing Research Excellence Awards and Teaching Excellence Awards. This year they cover the period 2020-2021.

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Final nominations for each category must be endorsed by the faculty/LSRI/service division leadership team and submitted online **no later than Friday 12 November 2021**.

[Vice-Chancellor's Excellence Award](#)

Waiora | Wellbeing community - a place for staff to connect



To support staff wellbeing we are trialling a new Microsoft Teams channel where staff can share tips and find resources. Current hot topics include finding ways to be active and caring for others during lockdown, and we are delighted to have subject matter experts from Sports Sciences and the Sport & Recreation Centre supporting our korēro. Coming soon is a fun and social wellbeing challenge – join the community to find out more!

Click this [link](#) to join and pass it to others who might find it useful. Help shape the content and tell us what you'd like to see covered – see this quick [five question survey](#).

Photo by [Shane Rounce](#) on [Unsplash](#)

World Kindness Day – 13 November 2021

World Kindness Day takes place every year, on the 13th of November. Its purpose is to celebrate the ways in which people can make the world a better place by being kind. As we continue to experience limits on our freedoms, it is easy to become frustrated and start blaming others. Let's reflect on this and make November 13 – World Kindness Day – a time to be extra kind to each other.

Find ideas for ways to be kind to others, to the environment, and to yourself:

[World kindness day](#)
[Kindness ideas](#)



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This and previous issues of the HSW e-update are available [here](#). As usual, if you have any query on anything related to health, safety or wellbeing, please do not hesitate to contact us on hsw@auckland.ac.nz. Similarly, if you have any suggestions as to topics you would like us to cover in future e-updates, please get in touch.

Angus Clark

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