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What does the new normal look like to you, and what are your hopes for the future?

Did you know that 27 percent of people had moderate depression because of covid? That is more than two billion people in the world! Nowadays, because of covid, there is a new normal. A normal that we've never imagined before. People have to wear masks, we have to be more cautious around other people, and everyone is constantly getting sick. I hope this situation can uplift in the future. In this essay, I will be talking about everything that happened during covid, and my hopes for the future.

This global pandemic which started in 2019 and has lasted until the present day has caused many difficulties for young people in New Zealand. New Zealand went through many lockdowns, which meant that it was hard to go outdoors, keep in touch with friends and go to meetings. For example, there was a school camp planned last year, but the day we were supposed to go to camp, Jacinda Ardern announced a lockdown. This meant that our camp had to be delayed to the end of the year, which was very annoying. The many challenges covid brought to the people of New Zealand really opened up their eyes, and made them aware of what was actually going on.

While it took a long period of time, the young people of New Zealand were able to adjust to the new normal. This new normal meant that instead of meeting your friends in person, you may just host a zoom call. Instead of being able to play sports whenever you want, you now need to wear masks. This means that people will be more cautious about everything, including things that we've never even considered before, like the common cold. Adjusting to the new normal was actually an interesting process, because the new normal is so distinctively different from anything we've experienced before.

While young New Zealanders have adjusted to the new normal, I hope that the future holds many positive things. I hope that people can run outside again. I hope that people won't have to wear a mask again. I hope that everything can return to normal again. In order for these hopes to become a reality, there is still much work to be done. Firstly, we must follow the rules that the government gives us. Next, we must remain vigilant and

maintain our current sanitary conditions. Lastly, we must keep ourselves and each other safe from the virus by isolating or staying home when needed.

In conclusion, I think that every single one of you has tried very hard to adjust to the new normal, and that in the future, everything will be well again. I hope that the young New Zealanders of this country can stay safe, and keep in touch with each other.