



1 February 2022

Dear Parents/Carer

SA Health has provided guidance on how to manage cases of COVID-19 in schools and early learning centres. There will be new contact tracing and close contact arrangements in education from 31 January 2022.

The new arrangements recognise the importance of providing quality education and care for our children and students while minimising the risk of COVID-19 transmission. Schools and early learning centres will remain open if there is a case of COVID-19 under the new arrangements.

It is very important that you:

- notify us immediately if your child tests positive to COVID-19, including the date symptoms started so we can calculate the first day of the infectious period, as required by SA Health
- keep your child/ren home if they are:
 - unwell
 - experiencing any COVID-19 symptoms (even if symptoms are mild)
 - any other member of the household has COVID-19
 - they are a close contact for a person who has COVID-19 and are required to quarantine
- let your child (if in Years 7 to 12) know that they will be required to wear a face mask while indoors at school (we will be strongly recommending that students in Years 3 to 6 also wear a face mask while indoors at school). Medical exemptions apply.

1. Classroom Contacts

If a student or teacher in your child's class or room tests positive for COVID-19, your child will be deemed a classroom contact and the following will occur:

- we will notify all parents in that class/room of the positive case
- all students and children without symptoms can continue attending school and the ELC. No rapid antigen testing will be required.

Any teacher who is in a classroom with a student or colleague who tests positive will undertake 7 days of rapid antigen testing ('test to stay').

2. Additional Recommendations for Classroom Contacts

The Chief Public Health Officer (CPHO) has recommended that classroom contacts should avoid the following between days 1 to 7 of exposure:

- attendance at OSHC where possible
- attending extra-curricular activities for 7 days (such as camps, excursions, interschool sport, combined choir etc – noting most of these activities have been temporarily suspended until 21 February).

The CPHO advises classroom contacts should do the following to minimise risk to others, when outside of the school, preschool or ECEC setting between days 1 to 14 of exposure:

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- avoid high risk settings or COVID Management Plan events
- wear a surgical mask around others (where age appropriate) and outside the home
- avoid contact with vulnerable people outside of your workplace or family, where possible
- avoid non-essential activities where possible (e.g. where there are lots of people, inside, in close contact)
- avoid shared spaces and maintain physical distance.

3. Students who have Worked 1:1 with a COVID Positive Staff Member

Any student who has worked 1:1 with a COVID positive staff member (more than 15 minutes, indoors, in close proximity and where face masks are not able to be worn) will be asked to complete 7 days of rapid antigen testing ('test to stay'). The test should be taken each morning before attending school/ELC. We will provide you with the testing kits at no charge. Students who test positive must not attend school/ELC.

Alternatively, if you do not want your child to complete the 7-day testing protocol, they must quarantine for 7 days. Our teachers have their teaching programs available to classes via Canvas (learning management system) resources so that students in Middle School and Senior School can continue their learning self-directed whilst in quarantine. For Junior School students in quarantine, teachers will communicate learning for your child/ren via Dojo. Note, as per Head of Schools Mike Potter's letter to families on 18 January, teachers are unable to provide learning to students at home and at school simultaneously, so communication for students quarantining will be limited.

4. Surveillance Testing for Preschool and Childcare Staff

In our ELC, staff will undertake surveillance rapid antigen testing every Monday, Wednesday, and Friday morning and will attend the workplace if they receive a negative result.

These new arrangements will be in place until Friday 25 February. However, with the rapidly changing nature of the pandemic, this may be reviewed or changed if, and when necessary. As always, we will remain flexible and responsive.

I understand you may have questions about this information. I will continue to provide you with information as it becomes available.

Thank you for your understanding and support in implementing these temporary measures as we continue to adjust to this rapidly changing pandemic.

Yours sincerely

Sam Cheesman
Principal

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