



## Covid 19 Information

### Victoria's Back-To-School plan

The measures set out in the Victorian Government's Back-To-School plan will ensure every possible effort is made to ensure staff and students are safe and that schools remain open. The plan maintains the importance of the 3Vs: Ventilation, Vaccination and Vital COVIDSafe steps and introduces some new measures.

### Rapid Antigen Test Kits

Rapid antigen test kits will continue to be distributed directly to schools for use in the first four weeks of Term 1 2022. Parents/carers should collect a second pack for each child at the start of week three. Parents/carers will be notified of distribution.

Students should continue to conduct the RA tests at home and must report any positive test results to their school and the Department of Health. In Primary schools, tests should be conducted twice weekly, on days that suit families – no particular days are prescribed, however, we are suggesting that common days for tests be done at home on Wednesday and Sunday.

A reminder that students who receive a positive test result at any time, must report this **through the Department of Health system (Rapid antigen tests | Coronavirus Victoria) or via the coronavirus hotline at 1800 675 398**. Students (or their parents) must also **report a positive result to St Fidelis Primary School by phone or written notification**; this is so the school can support them, record that they will be absent while in 7-day isolation, and let the rest of the school community know there has been a positive case onsite and that they should monitor for symptoms.

Students who have tested positive for COVID-19, have completed their 7-day isolation period and are subsequently asymptomatic do not need to undertake surveillance testing for 30 days.

All students who return a positive result from a rapid antigen test should also follow the latest advice at <https://www.coronavirus.vic.gov.au/rapid-antigen-tests>.

Students need to refrain from returning to school if they remain symptomatic, unless it is known that their symptoms are caused by an underlying health condition or medication.

## **Summary of student scenarios (What to do)**

### **1. A student tests positive to COVID-19, either through RA test or PCR test**

#### **What to do**

Isolate at home or in private accommodation for 7 days (inclusive of weekends) and do not attend school during this period. Inform the school that they have tested positive to COVID19. A negative test is not required to return to school following completion of 7 days of isolation. Follow the Checklist for COVID cases.

### **2. A student or staff member is a household contact or houselike contact.**

**You have spent more than four hours with someone who has COVID-19 inside a house, accommodation, or care facility.**

**Contact at school is not included in this definition, unless contact has occurred in a school-based residential setting, e.g. school camp or boarding school.**

#### **What to do**

Notify the school that they are a household or household-like Contact. Follow the Checklist for COVID contacts.

Students must quarantine for 7 days (inclusive of weekends) and must not attend school during this period.

### **3. A student has been in contact with a case of COVID-19, including at school or at work.**

#### **What to do**

If asymptomatic, students should continue to attend school and monitor for symptoms.

If symptomatic, all students must stay/return home, take a rapid antigen test, or get a PCR test if a rapid antigen testing kit is unavailable. On receipt of a negative test result, and if well enough, the student can return to school. If students are too unwell to attend school, usual absence policies apply.

Follow the Checklist for COVID contacts.

- 4. Student has contracted COVID-19, completed their 7- day isolation period and is asymptomatic.**

**What to do**

Students can safely return to school. They do not need to be tested for 30 days.

- 5. Student has completed their quarantine period as a household contact and has returned a negative test result.**

**What to do**

Student household contacts should quarantine for 7 days from the date of the first positive test of the household index case.

- 6. However, during the quarantine period an additional member of the household has returned a positive result.**

**What to do**

Household contacts are not subject to rolling quarantine periods. If the index case remains in the household, or if subsequent cases are identified within the household, the quarantine end date for the close contact is unchanged.

Students can safely return to school and do not require negative test documentation.

Please note, if the student becomes symptomatic, they should get tested and not attend school.