



7th February 2023

COVID Advice Update

Dear Parents and Carers,

COVIDSafe measures have changed, but all Victorian government schools are required to continue to implement important practices to reduce the risk of COVID-19 transmission.

Schools must continue to take the important steps of ensuring air purifiers are in use, external ventilation is maximised, good personal hygiene is encouraged and face masks continue to be made available for staff, students and visitors who wish to wear them.

Some key points are:

- It is recommended that rapid antigen tests (RATs) are used by students and staff:
 - If you have symptoms of COVID-19 infection, no matter how mild
 - If you are a household or close contact of someone who has COVID-19
 - If you are a social contact of someone who has COVID-19.
- Rapid Antigen Test are available for all Victorians from Council sites. People can get 2 free packs (10 tests) for themselves and 2 free packs (10 tests) for each of their household members.
- People with disability and their carers can get up to 4 free packs (20 tests) in line with existing RAT distribution for people with disability.
- Staff and students who wish to wear a face mask should be supported to do so, and schools should continue to make face masks available for staff, students, and visitors.
- The Department of Health recommends that masks should be worn by a person who is a close contact of someone who has tested positive for COVID-19 when leaving home.
- Students who report a positive result are recommended to isolate for a minimum of 5 days and not attend school until their symptoms have resolved. Students who isolate as a result of a positive COVID-19 test should will be supported in the same way as students with an extended absence due to illness or injury, with learning materials provided to support their continued learning.
- There is no longer a requirement for principals to inform the school community of a positive case associated with the school

Thank you for your continued support.

Stay safe.

Regards

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