



WERRINGTON PUBLIC SCHOOL

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27th April 2022

Term 2 Update

Dear parents and carers,

Close contacts

An announcement to ease the isolation requirements for close contacts was made on 20 April 2022. This will enable students and staff who are close contacts and have no symptoms to continue to attend school if they follow guidelines agreed with NSW Health. Close contacts will not be permitted to enter an SSP or support unit (including Assisted School Travel Program) and will be supported to continue learning or working from home where possible.

Close contacts attending school will need to adhere to the following in addition to the health guidelines. <https://www.nsw.gov.au/covid-19/management/household-contacts>:

- They must notify the school and their outside of school hours care (OOSHC) provider if they are intending to return under this provision.
- They should conduct a daily RAT and return a negative result each morning before attending school for 5 school days.
- Primary school students are recommended to wear a mask indoors (except when eating or exercising).
- No student or staff member identified as a close contact will be permitted to participate in overnight excursions, including school camps.

Students and staff at greater risk of serious illness, if they were to contract COVID-19, should speak with their health care professional to review their health support plan or COVID-19 action plan and speak with the school about any local considerations.

Further information can be found at <https://education.nsw.gov.au/covid-19/advice-for-families>

Rapid antigen testing

As mentioned above staff and students deemed as close contacts, in mainstream classes, can continue to come to school as long as they have no symptoms and have a negative RAT test each morning prior to coming to school.

For families that indicated that they wished to receive RAT tests, at the end of last term each child received a multi-pack of RAT tests. One additional multi-pack will be provided per child in a few weeks once additional supplies have arrived.

Instructions are included in the kits detailing how to use the tests, check the results and dispose of the tests safely. You can also download the instructions through the <https://www.tga.gov.au/covid-19-rapid-antigen-self-tests-are-approved-australia> website. The user guides will also contain a contact number for the suppliers.

Additional information

- School staff will not be administering the rapid antigen tests to students.
- If a student or staff member receives a **positive** RAT result, they need to:

- record the positive RAT result through the <https://www.nsw.gov.au/covid-19/stay-safe/testing/register-positive-rat-test-result> or <https://www.service.nsw.gov.au/campaign/service-nsw-mobile-app>
- notify the school of the positive RAT or PCR result as soon as possible
- follow <https://www.health.nsw.gov.au/Infectious/covid-19/Pages/self-isolation-and-testing.aspx> to isolate for 7 days.

Negative results **do not** need to be reported to Service NSW or to the school.

Staff and students who are unwell

Remember: Staff and students cannot attend school if they are showing any symptoms of COVID-19. Any student or staff member who is unwell and/or displays symptoms of COVID-19 will be asked to go home and stay until they can complete a RAT or PCR test.

- If symptoms continue, they should stay at home and take another RAT in 24 hours or have a PCR test.
- Students and staff who test positive are required to report their test result to service NSW and then isolate for a minimum of 7 days. They can return to school after 7 days as long as they have no symptoms,
- Students and staff who test negative, can return to school when they no longer have symptoms.
- If the second RAT or initial PCR test result is negative and they are displaying no symptoms OR they are diagnosed as another condition such as hayfever, (please note a medical certificate or letter from the doctor is required) the student or staff member can return to school.

Thank you again for your continued support of our school this term.

Kind regards,
Christine Avery
Principal