



Information and FAQs for Baseline Settings

Close contacts:

Can asymptomatic close contact students return to school?

Yes. Parents must inform the school of the child's close contact status and should do so via the CEWA COVID-19 Self-Reporting Portal. Students who return to school must follow the requirements set out by the WA Government including mask wearing (Year 7 and above) and daily RATs. Students in primary school are not required to wear a mask.

Can a close contact wearing a mask remove it if doing vigorous exercise or playing school or community sport?

If the close contact is alone and not in the presence of others then the mask may be removed. If the close contact is in the presence of others the mask must be worn.

Is it compulsory for students who are asymptomatic close contacts to attend school?

Yes; school attendance is compulsory and students should return to normal classes unless symptomatic or a positive COVID-19 result is returned.

What are the requirements of asymptomatic close contacts who also have mask exemptions wishing to attend school?

The mask exemption will continue to prevail, even if the individual is identified as a close contact. Students in this scenario are able to return to school as usual. For impacted staff, consideration may be given to their working from home, if possible.

What recording is required by the school and what evidence needs to be supplied for persons identified as close contacts?

Staff and students are encouraged to report their close contact status via the CEWA COVID-19 Self-Reporting Portal. Staff Parents are welcome to upload photo evidence of their negative RAT, however, this is not a compulsory requirement. Positive RAT COVID-19 cases must be reported on the WA Health website.

Students

Do students need to wear masks while on a bus, for example travelling to excursions or swimming?

Students in Years 6 and below are no longer required to wear a mask. Students in Years 7 and over (other than those with an approved exemption) are required to wear a mask while travelling on public transport, as well as school owned and chartered vehicles.

Do students and staff who are close contacts need to take a RAT each day prior to coming to school?

Yes. Students and staff who are close contacts must take a RAT each day before coming to school and are encouraged to note their result via the portal. Where a student or staff member becomes symptomatic or returns a positive result, they must commence isolation protocols.

When do I need to provide work for students who are not at school?

Schools need to provide work for students who need to stay at home due to isolation requirements. Schools are not required to provide work to students who are being kept at home by parents/carers; however, each case needs to be considered on its merits – see expectations related to remote learning below.

If a positive case returns to school before the WA Health recommended date of return, are we as a school responsible to send them home?

Yes. The parents of students who are COVID-19 positive should be immediately contacted and requested to pick up their child. The child should not return to school until they have completed their 7 day isolation period. The CEWA COVID-19 Self-Reporting Portal will be useful in providing oversight of staff and student return dates, if information is uploaded into the portal.

What are the expectations of remote learning

As a general rule, students should be at school unless they have COVID or are otherwise unwell. Schools should continue to provide remote learning for students who have COVID, if required, as those who are asymptomatic or have mild symptoms may do some work from home.

Schools do need to respond to individual circumstances and remain pastoral where there is COVID in households. Most asymptomatic students, who are COVID free but have COVID in the household, should be able to come to school. However, there will be circumstances where this is challenging – for example if parents have COVID, transporting students to school may be a challenge. Schools need to be flexible, pastoral and reasonable in responding to these circumstances and to supporting students with their learning.

Do students/work placements in city need to show proof of vaccinations?

Proof of vaccination may be required dependent upon the industry of work placement. Refer to the vaccination directions for further information.

