

Guidelines for close contacts in Queensland

Who do these Guidelines apply to?

These guidelines apply to all close contacts covered by the *Isolation for Diagnosed Cases of COVID-19 and Management of Close Contacts Direction*.

You are a close contact if:

- You have been with a person that has COVID-19 for more than four hours in a house or other accommodation, a care facility or similar.
- You live with a person that has COVID-19 and have had more than four hours contact with them in the household setting.

If you have had COVID-19 in the previous 12 weeks, you are required to follow these guidelines.

What do I do if I am a close contact and I have symptoms of COVID-19?

If you have or develop COVID-19 symptoms you must stay at home until your symptoms resolve.

Test for COVID-19 as soon as possible after the onset of symptoms.

If your test is negative but symptoms persist or worsen you should seek medical advice.

- *Example: You have a sore throat on day 2, an immediate test is negative, and you stay home for the day. The next day the sore throat is gone, with no further symptoms, you may leave the house following the requirements for close contacts with no symptoms.*

What do I do if I am a close contact and do not have symptoms of COVID-19?

You should monitor for symptoms for 7 days from the last time someone in your household tested positive for COVID-19.

If you remain symptom free, you do not need to quarantine and can leave your home for any reason.

While you are a close contact you must:

- wear a mask at all times when outside the home
- not visit vulnerable settings, such as hospitals, aged care and disability facilities, unless in exceptional or compassionate circumstances (for example, end of life visits)
- test for COVID-19 if you develop [symptoms](#).

It is also recommended that you:

- avoid large gatherings or crowded indoor events

- work or study from home if you can.

While you are a close contact it is recommended that you test for COVID-19 if you plan to leave home and mix with other people. You should test on the first day you leave home and every second day (e.g. days 2, 4, and 6) until you are no longer a close contact.

Can I go to work or school while I am a close contact?

If you have COVID-19 symptoms you must stay at home until the symptoms resolve. You must not attend work or school.

If you do not have any symptoms and are unable to work or study from home, you must notify your employer or educational setting before you return. You will have to comply with any additional requirements set by your workplace or educational setting.

Children over the age of 12 years who attend school while they are a close contact must wear a mask. Masks are recommended where it is safe to do so for children under the age of 12.

What do I do if I am a close contact and I work at a hospital, aged care facility or disability accommodation facility?

You can return to work if you do not have any COVID-19 symptoms.

You must comply with the vaccination requirements that apply at your workplace.

You must let your employer know that you are a close contact before you return to work.

You must return a negative COVID-19 test result before your first shift and every second day for 7 days from the last time someone in your household tested positive for COVID-19.

You must wear a mask.

You will have to comply with any additional requirements set by your workplace. This may include additional personal protective equipment.