

# COVID-safe schools plan

Term 3, 2022



Being at school is the best place for our students. COVID-safe measures and lower COVID-19 cases in our community mean our schools can continue to stay safely open. This is our plan for Tasmanian Government schools for Term 3, 2022.

Some elements of this plan may change during Term 3 based on Public Health advice. We will continually monitor the situation, make changes as necessary and keep school communities informed.

## Early childhood services

(including childcare programs and Out of School Hours Care)

**Face-to-face learning** will continue with COVID-safe measures in place.

**Students with disability** that have complex health needs will continue to be supported by their school with individual learning plans.

**Regular school and learning activities** will continue in a COVID-safe manner.

**Testing for COVID-19** when you have symptoms will continue. Students and staff will have access to rapid antigen tests at their school, to use if they have symptoms. If your child is unwell, please keep them home and get tested.

**COVID-19 cases will be safely managed by Public Health.** Every school has a dedicated COVID-19 support person, who works closely with Public Health if there are increased COVID-19 cases. Families will be contacted directly about any COVID-19 impacts at their school.

**Learning at home** via the Virtual Learning Centre with the support of an online teacher will continue if students need to isolate due to COVID-19. If your child is a COVID-19 case, they can do online learning if they feel well, and return to school if they have no symptoms after seven days.

**Workforce planning** strategies are in place to ensure there are enough staff in schools.

## Primary schools

(including childcare programs and Out of School Hours Care)

## Secondary schools

(including vocational placements and school-based apprenticeships)

## Keeping up our COVID-safe measures (they're important)



### Vaccination:

Children aged 5+ years will continue to be encouraged to be vaccinated - vaccination is not mandatory for a child to attend school. All Department of Education staff, including volunteers and contractors, are vaccinated.



### Face masks:

Face masks are no longer mandatory indoors at schools, unless an individual is directed to wear a face mask by Public Health. There may also be times or situations where a school requires face masks to be worn. It is however, strongly recommended that all staff and visitors wear face masks when indoors, or if they are unable to physically distance. Wearing a face mask is not a requirement for students, but strongly recommended indoors, as well as when they cannot physically distance. Students will be supported to wear masks by their school when they choose to. Face masks will continue to be available for staff and students at all Tasmanian Government Schools.



### Ventilation:

Air purifiers will continue to be used in classrooms, as well as use of open windows if cool climate allows.



### Outdoor learning:

Schools will continue to take advantage of outdoor learning opportunities, where possible, dependent on cool climate.



### Physical distancing:

All adults will continue to keep a physical distance of 1.5 metres from each other.



### Hygiene practices:

Regular handwashing and sanitising will continue.



### Cleaning:

Frequent cleaning will continue, particularly on high-touch surfaces.



### Safe site management:

Non-essential visitors will continue to be limited, and schools will regularly review their COVID-19 safety plans.



### Groups:

Mixing of students and staff will continue to be limited where possible. COVID-safe ways of bringing students together to participate in learning activities will be considered.



### Stay at home if unwell:

Students, staff and visitors must stay home if unwell and test if they have cold or flu-like symptoms, no matter how mild.

► Access the detailed operational plan at [education.tas.gov.au/COVID-19](https://education.tas.gov.au/COVID-19)