



Queensland
Government

Metro North
Hospital and Health Service

1 August 2021

Dear parents, care givers, students and staff

RE: CONFIRMED CASE OF COVID-19 AT BRISBANE GRAMMAR SCHOOL

Metro North Public Health Unit (MNPHU) has been notified of confirmed cases of coronavirus (COVID-19) in members of the school community. These people attended Brisbane Grammar School on the following days while infectious, although they were not aware that they were infectious at the time. Specifically, they were at school:

- **Thursday, 29 Jul 2021 including**
 - **Early morning Symphony Orchestra band/string practice from 06:30**
- **Friday, 30 Jul 2021**

The case was also at the following school event:

- **Thursday, 29 Jul 2021**
 - **Debating competition: Boys Grammar v St Peters (hosted at St Peters) at 19:30 – 20:30**

All students, staff and visitors to the school on these days are close contacts (also known as primary contacts) and must quarantine at home for 14 days. Household members of these close (primary) contacts must also quarantine at home. These household members are considered secondary contacts. This includes essential workers such as healthcare workers, police and border workers.

If you are unsure of the definition of a close contact, please refer to the following website:

<https://www.qld.gov.au/health/conditions/health-alerts/coronavirus-covid-19/stay-informed/glossary-and-definitions>.

If essential workers (healthcare workers, police and border workers) who are secondary contacts are deemed by their employer to be critical to the appropriate staffing of their workplace and the worker is asymptomatic and has tested negative to COVID themselves, they may attend work if the following conditions are met:

- The close contact must be able to maintain separation from the secondary contact (the critical essential worker) as per the advice in the quarantine at home information sheet: <https://www.qld.gov.au/health/conditions/health-alerts/coronavirus-covid-19/protect-yourself-others/quarantine/home-quarantine>. This is a minimum separation. It is preferable for the worker to completely separate from the close contact, for example move to live in a house / unit at a separate address or move into a self-contained granny-flat.
- The close contact needs to be tested and a negative test needs to be returned AFTER the critical essential worker (secondary contact) is effectively separated from the close contact
- The critical essential worker (secondary contact) must inform their workplace that a member of their household has had a potential COVID exposure and the workplace should consider additional precautions if the worker is to return to work.
- The critical essential worker's workplace may require additional precautions such as:
 - That the worker (secondary contact) has been vaccinated against COVID-19
 - That the worker (secondary contact) attends to saliva testing every day they are at work whilst the close contact is in quarantine;

- That the critical essential worker (secondary contact) wears a P2/N95 mask and eye protection whilst at work.

In this situation of exposure at Brisbane Grammar School, the quarantine period finishes at 11:59PM on Friday, 13 Aug 2021. Detailed information on home quarantine can be found on the Queensland Health website at: <https://www.qld.gov.au/health/conditions/health-alerts/coronavirus-covid-19/protect-yourself-others/quarantine/home-quarantine>.

Close (primary) contacts should be tested within the first days of going into quarantine. All close (primary) contacts **must** also undertake exit testing on **day 12** of the quarantine period, Wednesday 11 Aug 2021. Additionally, any contact or household member who develops symptoms during the quarantine period should be tested immediately. It is preferable to use a drive through testing centre for this testing. Please see the following websites for the testing centre nearest to you:

<https://www.qld.gov.au/health/conditions/health-alerts/coronavirus-covid-19/stay-informed/testing-and-fever-clinics>

<https://www.snp.com.au/coronavirus-covid-19/>

<https://www.qml.com.au/patients/covid-19-patient/>

As long as the close (primary) contact remains free from COVID-19 infection, others in the household will not need to be tested, but must still quarantine until 11:59PM on Friday, 13 Aug 2021.

COVID-19 is a highly infectious illness, which is spread from person-to-person through tiny droplets created during coughing, sneezing, singing and speaking, or via contact with contaminated objects (such as door handles or tables) and then touching your mouth or face. It can cause serious complications such as pneumonia.

Symptoms of COVID-19 include:

- Fever
- Cough
- Sore throat
- Fatigue
- Shortness of breath
- Loss of smell or loss of taste

If you have questions, please contact your family doctor, Metro North Public Health Unit between 08:30 am and 5:00 pm, seven days (P: 07 3646 1111) or 13HEALTH (P: 13 43 25 84).

Yours sincerely

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