

Summary of Key Points

2022 School Operations Guide: Term 1, Mon 31 Jan

The [CECV School Operations Guide](#) has been updated with advice and guidance regarding the Back-To-School plan announced Sunday by the Victorian Government. The measures set out in the Victorian Government's Back-To-School plan will ensure every possible effort is made to ensure staff and students are safe and that schools remain open.

Rapid antigen test kits and distribution to schools

Free rapid antigen test kits will be distributed directly to schools for the first four weeks of Term 1. The College will inform parents/carers as soon as tests are available for collection. A collection procedure will also be outlined at that time.

Please note:

- The recommended rapid antigen testing schedule for students is twice weekly (on school days)
- Tests will be provided in packs of five individual tests
- Parents/carers will collect one pack for each child at the start of Week 1 and one pack for each child at the start of Week 3
- Where parents/carers are unable to attend the school to collect the tests, a pack can be provided directly to a student to take home
- Students will do the tests at home and must report any positive test results

Confirmed positive case

Where a student is identified as a positive case parents/carers must:

- follow the latest advice at <https://www.coronavirus.vic.gov.au/rapid-antigen-tests>
- report this through the Department of Health system or via the coronavirus hotline at 1800 675 398
- complete the **RA Test portal** or **VicEd COVID portal**
- inform the College by phone or written notification

Students who report a positive result must isolate for 7 days and not attend school during that period.

Household contact of a positive case

A household contact is defined as having spent more than four hours with someone who has COVID-19 inside a house, accommodation, or care facility. Where a student is a household contact of a positive case parents/carers should:

- inform the College by phone or written notification

Students who are a household contact must isolate for 7 days and not attend school during that period.

Please note:

- a negative test is not required to return to school following isolation period

Contact at school with a positive case

Where a student has been in contact with a case of COVID-19, including at school, they should:

- **if symptomatic, stay/return home**, take a rapid antigen test, or get a PCR test if a rapid antigen testing kit unavailable
- **if not symptomatic, continue to attend** school and monitor for symptoms

On receipt of a negative test result, and if well enough, the student can return to school.

Please note:

- If students are too unwell to attend school, usual absence policies apply
- The College is not required to seek rapid antigen test results from the students unless a positive test is returned

Management of suspected cases of COVID-19 in schools

A 'suspected' or 'symptomatic' case means a person who displays any COVID-19 symptoms. As soon as practicable after becoming aware of a suspected case – and if that student has attended onsite while displaying symptoms, or 48 hours before they developed symptoms:

- the student needs to follow guidelines in the ***Testing Requirements for Contacts and Exposed Persons***

Student attendance

All students are expected to attend onsite. Parent preference is not an approved reason for students to be absent. Students who are required to isolate or quarantine will be supported in the same way as students with an extended absence due to illness or injury. Access to learning materials will be provided to support their continued learning, however,

- the College is not expected to provide a full remote learning program

Students who may be medically vulnerable

As per the advice of the Victorian Chief Health Officer, COVIDSafe measures have been put in place to ensure that schools are as safe as possible for all children including those with medical vulnerabilities, however independent medical advice should always be taken on an individual basis.

QR codes and visitors to schools

The use of QR code check-ins and verification of vaccination status is required for visitors to the College. However, in the short-term it is preferable that parents/carers refrain from entering the College unless a prior appointment has been arranged.