



YRSDS OSH PROGRAM GUIDELINES FOR MANAGEMENT OF PARTICIPANTS DISPLAYING COVID-19 SYMPTOMS

<p><u>Step 1:</u> Participant is displaying COVID-19 symptoms, or they are informed they need to quarantine as a primary or secondary close contact of a confirmed COVID-19 case or because they have otherwise been advised to self-quarantine e.g. they have visited a public exposure site.</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ➤ The symptoms to watch out for are: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ● fever ● chills or sweats ● cough ● sore throat ● shortness of breath ● runny nose ● loss or change in sense of smell or taste <p>Some people may also experience headache, muscle soreness, stuffy nose, nausea, vomiting and diarrhoea.</p> ➤ See What to do if you are a close contact for further information about quarantine.
<p><u>Step 2:</u> Participant and staff member put on a single use face mask.</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ➤ Schools should ensure easy access to single use face masks in classrooms or corridors for this purpose. ➤ Face masks should not be used in situations where an individual is unable to tolerate a face mask safely or practically (for example, breathing difficulty).
<p><u>Step 3a:</u> Staff member to escort the participant to the school's designated isolation area. This is the junior amenities room travel by most direct route. Enter from junior playground if possible.</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ➤ Reassure the unwell participant and remain mindful of their wellbeing and safety. ➤ Ask another staff member to request nurse meets child with staff member in isolation room. If nurse is not available request management to attend. (Luke Adams) ➤ Urgent medical attention should be sought where indicated as per DET First Aid policy and applying DRSABC. ➤ Conduct a risk assessment (if appropriate for age/developmental stage of participant). See Step 3b ➤ The door to the isolation area should be closed. ➤ If the participant is only experiencing minor symptoms and they will be collected promptly, consider locating the participant outdoors, weather permitting and with appropriate supervision. Any designated outdoor space should not be accessible by others. (swing or trampoline area, etc.) ➤ Staff member supervises participant whilst risk assessment is taking place. ➤ See Section E: <i>Setting up an isolation area</i>
<p><u>Step 3b:</u> Conduct risk assessment (to be undertaken by a trained staff member) This will be conducted by the nurse or program Manager</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ➤ Ask the participant (or their parent/carer) if they have: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> o had contact with a confirmed case of COVID-19 o visited a known exposure site - https://www.dhhs.vic.gov.au/case-locations-and-outbreaks-covid-19 o live in or visited a geographically localised area at higher risk as determined by public health or have recently been released from a quarantine facility. ➤ If they answer 'yes' to any of the above, they should be considered a 'high-risk suspected case' to inform PPE requirements.
<p><u>Step 4:</u> parent/carer advised to collect the participant as soon as possible by nurse or program manager.</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ➤ Complete the risk assessment (where additional information/confirmation required from the parent/carer) ➤ If considered 'high-risk' following assessment school nurse or nominated staff member will don required PPE and supervise participant following instructions in step 5.

<p>Step 5. If required to enter the isolation area, personal protective equipment (PPE) to be put on prior to entering.</p> <p>Nurse or nominated staff member in the isolation room (Junior amenities space)</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ➤ If required to enter the isolation area, the staff member should put on, or “don”, required PPE before entering in the following order: <ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Hand hygiene 2. Gown 3. Single use face mask OR P2 respirator (as per <i>PPE guide for education settings</i>) 4. Eye protection 5. Gloves ➤ See Section D: <i>Putting on and removing PPE</i> ➤ Unless close contact care required, physical distancing (1.5m) should be maintained when in the isolation space. ➤ For participants with complex medical needs, only essential aerosol generating procedures (AGPs) that support emergency care should be undertaken at this time. All other AGPs should be postponed until the participant is collected by their parent/carer.
<p>Step 6: Parent or carer to collect the child from the isolation area (Junior amenities space).</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ➤ Parent or carer should be directed to the isolation area to collect the participant and offered a single use face mask if they don't already have one to wear. ➤ The staff member should advise that the participant must be tested for COVID-19 and stay home until they receive a negative test result and feel well. ➤ Refer the parent or carer to Where to get tested for further information on testing locations. ➤ Refer the parent or carer to Managing illness in schools and early childhood services during the COVID-19 pandemic for further information about returning to school following a period of illness. ➤ Where a participant or several members of a family/household have been directed by the Victorian Department of Health (or any other State or Territory) to isolate or quarantine, schools should follow public health advice in relation to the collection of participants. In some cases, it may be appropriate for a parent/carer to collect the participant from the school gate rather than coming onto school premises. In this situation the accompanying staff member should wear appropriate PPE as per Step 6.
<p>Step 7: Staff member to remove and dispose PPE</p> <p>This takes place in the bathroom adjacent to the isolation space, Junior amenities</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ➤ Once the participant has left school premises, the supervising staff member should remove, or ‘doff’, PPE in an order that minimises the potential for cross contamination. The sequence for doffing PPE is as follows: <ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Gloves 2. Hand hygiene 3. Gown 4. Hand hygiene 5. Eye protection 6. Single use face mask OR P2 respirator (as per <i>PPE guide for education settings</i>) 7. Hand hygiene ➤ Used PPE should be put into a plastic bag and tied up or sealed and placed in a secure bin or bin with a lid, with hand hygiene performed afterwards. ➤ See Section D: <i>Putting on and removing PPE</i>
<p>Step 8: Isolation areas cleaned and disinfected appropriately</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ➤ Once the participant has left, the isolation space, junior amenities space should be left unattended for 60 minutes to allow respiratory droplets/aerosols to settle before medium and high touch surfaces are cleaned and disinfected. ➤ After 60 minutes sprays the area with sanitiser and mops the floor. Principal notifies the cleaning company to provide additional cleaning to the Junior Amenities block and bathroom. ➤ Any other spaces accessed by the participant, including bathrooms, should also be cleaned and disinfected. ➤ Linen, if used, should be laundered at the highest possible washing machine temperature setting. Linen should be placed in a bag and taken to laundry, with gloves worn and hand hygiene performed.