



Pentland Primary School N^o. 5369

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Principal : Mr Andrew Harrison

Dear Parents and Carers,

Covid - 19

As a community we are now living with Covid-19.

What to do if your child tests positive to Covid-19:

If your child tests positive to Covid -19, families should provide a confirmation of the notification of a positive test to the school. If it is outside normal school hours, you can also email the school at pentland.ps@education.vic.gov.au.

The school will contact the family and ask questions around when the child's symptoms started, what their symptoms are, when they were tested and when you received the notification.

If the child was onsite 48 hours prior to their symptoms commencing, the school will then report this to Department of Education and Training (DET).

The school has to then wait for DET to work with the Department of Health (DH). Department of Health will interview the family of the positive case (this may take a few hours/days). They will provide further information to DET and then contact the school to commence contact tracing.

The school will commence contacting identified primary close contacts. At the time of writing, a Primary Close Contact (PCC) is someone who has been in an enclosed space ie. a classroom, with the infected person for more than 2 hours. If you receive a call from an unidentified number or a private number, we encourage you to answer this. Primary close contacts are to be tested and DH will contact the family (this can take several days) about the isolation period (generally 14 days for unvaccinated and 7 days for double vaccinated students/staff). The school needs to sight double vaccination status of students and staff.

The school has to wait for DET to advise when they are able to contact the wider community (this may take several days) to determine if the school needs to close. Generally schools close to allow time for contact tracing to occur.

DET have increased the daily cleaning requirements in schools so that on a daily basis each school is cleaned to the DET requirements.

Please be aware that we can only advise on contact made during school hours, any contact that may occur between families outside of school hours is not our responsibility. Also, please note that we are unable to share any personal information about the infected person, and if you are not contacted directly, that means your child has been deemed as low risk by the Department of Health.

Thank you to those families who show understanding and support during these times. As a school we act as swiftly as we can, however we are often waiting on DET and DH before we can act/communicate.

Staff at our school are working outside of their paid hours of employment when required to ensure protocols are followed as it is in the best interests of our community.

Kind regards,

Andrew Harrison
Principal
Pentland Primary School