

# School-based close contact in a high caseload environment

## Testing and isolation advice for schools

### Close contact definitions in schools

#### Face-to-face

At least 15 minutes face-to-face contact where a mask was not worn by the exposed person and the person with COVID-19.

#### Small indoor space/classroom/no mask

Greater than two hours within a small indoor space or classroom environment, where masks have been removed for this period by the exposed person and the person with COVID-19 (note: others wearing masks in this scenario would not be a contact).

#### Advised by WA Health

Someone who is directed by WA Health that they are a close contact.

### Confirmed positive case

#### Notify your school and isolate for a minimum of 7 days.

- At Day 7, if symptoms are present remain in isolation until symptoms clear.
- If no symptoms after Day 7, leave isolation and no testing is required.



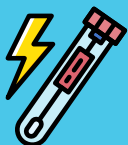
### Symptomatic close contact

#### Notify your school, isolate for 7 days from date of contact with positive case, and:

##### Take a PCR or RAT test as soon as symptoms develop:

- If positive, refer to **Confirmed positive case**. You must report your positive RAT.\*
- If negative stay in isolation, and if you used a RAT, take a second RAT in 24 hours and remain in isolation.
  - If then positive, refer to **Confirmed positive case**. You must report your positive RAT.\*
  - If negative and no new household members have tested positive – take a RAT again on Day 7, before ending isolation if a negative result is returned.

**\*Report your positive RAT to WA Health at [www.healthywa.wa.gov.au/ratregister](http://www.healthywa.wa.gov.au/ratregister)**



### Asymptomatic close contact

#### Notify your school, isolate for 7 days from date of contact with positive case:

- If symptoms develop, refer to **Symptomatic close contact**.
- If still asymptomatic, take a RAT on Day 7.
  - If positive, refer to **Confirmed positive case**. You must report your positive RAT.\*
  - If negative, and no new household members have tested positive – self-isolation ends after Day 7, and people should monitor for symptoms.

### Symptomatic (not a close contact)

#### Get a PCR test immediately and isolate until the result is returned:

- If positive, refer to **Confirmed positive case**.
- If negative, not required to isolate but should stay home where possible until symptoms clear.

#### If you take a RAT because a PCR test is unavailable:

- If positive, refer to **Confirmed positive case**. You must report your positive RAT.\*
- If negative, continue to isolate and repeat RAT in 24 hours – if negative after this follow-up test, you are not required to isolate but should stay home until symptoms clear.