# Actions to take for UQ staff and students who test COVID-19 positive or are a close contact

This is a summary prepared from the relevant Public Health Direction, *Isolation of Diagnosed Cases of COVID-19 and Management of Close Contacts Direction (No 4)*. This document will be updated with further revisions of the public health direction as they are released.

## 1. Isolation and Management

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Isolation and testing</th>
<th>COVID-19 Diagnosed Person</th>
<th>Exposure to COVID-19 positive person – Close Contact</th>
</tr>
</thead>
</table>
|                       | Immediately upon being informed of a positive COVID-19 test result (i.e a positive PCR test or a positive Rapid Antigen Test (RAT)), isolate at their residence for a period of 7 days from the date of undertaking the test or as otherwise directed by an emergency officer (public health). A positive RAT can be registered through this link - [https://www.qld.gov.au/rat-positive](https://www.qld.gov.au/rat-positive) | A COVID-19 positive person must inform their household and household like contacts that each household member is considered a close contact. All close contacts must quarantine for 7 days from the date of the last contact with the diagnosed person. Where the close contact is quarantining with the diagnosed person as a member of their household, the quarantine period is for the same period as the isolation period for the diagnosed person. If:  
- the close contact has symptoms or develops symptoms, they must have either a PCR test or a Rapid Antigen Test (RAT). A positive RAT can be registered through this link - [https://www.qld.gov.au/rat-positive](https://www.qld.gov.au/rat-positive).  
- the close contact has no symptoms, there is no obligation to undertake a COVID-19 test unless they develop symptoms apart from the Day 6 RAT required for their release from quarantine. |
|                       | If a person has any symptoms – assume COVID-19, remain at home and get tested as soon as possible. | If:  
- the close contact has symptoms or develops symptoms, they must have either a PCR test or a Rapid Antigen Test (RAT). A positive RAT can be registered through this link - [https://www.qld.gov.au/rat-positive](https://www.qld.gov.au/rat-positive).  
- the close contact has no symptoms, there is no obligation to undertake a COVID-19 test unless they develop symptoms apart from the Day 6 RAT required for their release from quarantine. |
| Release from isolation | A diagnosed person may leave isolation, and is deemed to be a cleared case of COVID-19, at the earlier of:  
- 7 days after undertaking the test if the person has no fever or acute respiratory symptoms and a direction to isolate has not been given by Public Health,  
OR  
- if the diagnosed person has fever or acute respiratory symptoms on Day 7 of isolation, once those symptoms have resolved,. | A close contact may leave quarantine at the end of 7 days from the last contact with the diagnosed person or the date the diagnosed person was tested (whichever is applicable), if the close contact:  
- does not have any symptoms and, on Day 6, has undertaken a RAT that produced a negative result,  
OR  
- has had symptoms during the quarantine period but no longer has symptoms and all COVID-19 tests, including a RAT on Day 6 have produced a negative result. |
Post isolation or quarantine requirements

- A diagnosed person must, for 7 days after the end of isolation:
  - wear a face mask at all times outside the home (including outdoors when unable to remain physically distant from persons other than household members).
  - not enter and remain in a vulnerable and high-risk setting (e.g., hospital) unless requiring medical care or permitted to enter as an employee of the vulnerable and high-risk setting, or where permitted to enter the vulnerable and high risk setting under another public health direction.

NB – Students on placement in a hospital or aged care facility are permitted to enter these facilities under the Hospital Entry Direction (No. 9) and the Residential Aged Care Direction (No. 12). Other student placement in vulnerable or high-risk settings may outside of these settings may need to comply with the requirement.

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2. Required action to take

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>COVID Positive Cases</th>
<th>Exposure to COVID-19 positive person – Close Contact</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td><strong>Staff members:</strong></td>
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</tr>
<tr>
<td>Covid positive staff member to notify their supervisor or designated contact as soon as possible – apply for sick leave. If at work – they must don a mask and leave work immediately. Supervisor or contact person to notify other staff and students (e.g., through tutoring, small group work etc) in the immediate area with permission from the COVID positive person. If COVID positive person is well enough and able to, discuss working from home arrangements.</td>
<td>If a person is at work with no symptoms and they have been deemed to be a close contact, they are to notify their supervisor or designated contact and leave work immediately – discuss working from home arrangements with them.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>Students:</strong></td>
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</tr>
<tr>
<td>If on campus, don a mask and leave the campus immediately. If the student is going to miss compulsory learning activities or assessment items, notify the course coordinator or apply for an extension in the usual way.</td>
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</tr>
</tbody>
</table>
Cleaning precautions

- Deep cleans are no longer required.
- If a person has COVID-like symptoms at work a routine clean is all that’s required with household grade products. P&F do not need to be called to carry out the clean. See Safety Note - Cleaning of work areas to reduce the transmission of COVID-19
- If a person has no symptoms at work but is deemed to be a close contact – no additional cleaning required.

Definitions:

**Close contact** means a person who is a household member at the time the diagnosed person undertakes the COVID-19 test that produced a positive test result, or a household-like contact of a diagnosed person. This does not apply to work situations as it specifically relates to accommodation situations.

**Household** means, except in exceptional circumstances determined by the Chief Health Officer or delegate, persons who ordinarily reside at the same premises or place of accommodation as the diagnosed person, and who are residing at the premises or place of accommodation at relevant time for determining quarantine. E.g. members of a family that live in the same house are a household. A group of unrelated people that share a house is a household.

**Household-like contact** means, except in exceptional circumstances determined by the Chief Health Officer, a person who has spent more than four hours with the diagnosed person in a house or other place of accommodation, such as a residential aged care facility, disability accommodation, hospital or similar setting, unless the person has been in a separate part of the house, place of accommodation, that has a separate point of entry, no shared common areas, where the person does not share that area for more than four hours, and the person has no contact or interaction with the diagnosed person for more than four hours. E.g., a person in a self-contained unit with a separate point of entry and access to shared common areas for less than four hours is not a household-like contact of a diagnosed person.