

29<sup>th</sup> April 2022

Dear Families

From Monday 4<sup>th</sup> May, close contacts of people with COVID-19 in Tasmania will no longer have to quarantine if they do not have symptoms and return negative RATs each day.

I would like to reassure families that Lady Gowrie Tasmania (LGT) continues to remain vigilant with COVID-19 safe behaviours in all our services and programs.

We are in contact with the Tasmanian Department of Health on a regular basis to seek advice and to minimise the impact of COVID-19 on our community.

In order to keep our children, families and people safe, I would like to clarify and ask for your cooperation with the Tasmanian Public Health advice below.

### **CLOSE CONTACTS**

If you are a close contact of someone with COVID-19 then for SEVEN (7) days you must:

- have no symptoms and test daily for COVID-19 if you plan to leave home
- wear a face mask in all indoor settings when outside the home
- do not attend high-risk settings, unless as a critical worker and an exemption is in place
- inform your workplace if you are a close contact

It is also recommended that close contacts:

- avoid large gatherings and social events
- avoid contact with people at risk of severe disease including elderly, immunocompromised and those with chronic conditions
- maintain all other COVID-19 safe behaviours

For more information please visit:

<https://www.coronavirus.tas.gov.au/keeping-yourself-safe/contact-tracing/advice-for-contacts>

### **TESTING POSITIVE TO COVID-19**

The requirements for testing positive to COVID-19 remain unchanged. You must isolate at home or in private accommodation for at least 7 days. For more information please visit:

<https://www.coronavirus.tas.gov.au/keeping-yourself-safe/information-for-positive-cases>

### **COVID-19 SAFE BEHAVIOURS**

All other COVID-19 safe behaviours remain in place - sanitise your hands, keep your distance, immunise and most importantly, please do not enter a LGT service or program if you test positive or are displaying any COVID-19 symptoms.

For more information please visit:

<https://www.coronavirus.tas.gov.au/keeping-yourself-safe/covid-safe-behaviours>

I would also like to clarify for our families LGT's position on the following:

### OUR PEOPLE

In relation to educators and support staff working in our education and care services and become close contacts, LGT's position is that staff will be able to come to work as long as they can meet the requirements outlined above.

In relation to corporate staff who do not work in our education and care services and become contacts, LGT's position is that they should follow Tasmanian Public Health advice and work from home, even if they are not displaying symptoms.

### CCS/ALLOWABLE ABSENCES

We are still able to provide you with a Gap Fee Waiver if you are unable to bring your child/ren to our services due to someone in the household having to isolate because of COVID 19.

Children who are technically close contacts are still welcome at LGT services provided that they can also meet the requirements of close contacts outlined above. This may prove difficult for you for as per the Government requirements if you are unable to provide a negative test for a child then they will not be able to attend.

### RAPID ANTIGEN TESTS

We are aware that the requirement for daily RAT tests of close contacts will put pressure on families. Public Health will provide you with enough tests for everyone to do for seven days – register for delivery or collection via [www.coronavirus.tas.gov.au](http://www.coronavirus.tas.gov.au)

Should you require additional RATs for your child/ren then please speak with the administrative staff or Service Manager at your child/ren's service. LGT has a very limited supply and may be able to help you out in the event of needing one urgently.

Thank you in advance for your cooperation and please do not hesitate to contact your Service Manager if you have any further questions.

Stay safe and well,

Mat

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