

Covid-19 Frequently Asked Questions

Q 1: Who do we advise if our child tests positive for Covid-19?

A: Please contact the Principal at school on 07 889 6629 or email: principal@mi.school.nz as soon as possible.

Q 2: My child has tested positive for Covid-19. What does this now mean?

A: Your child will need to self-isolate and your whānau members will be designated as close contacts.

This involves:

- Your child will need to self-isolate for 10 days (returning on Day 11 if they are symptom free)
- If at school, we will need to determine who the close contacts are and notify wider whānau
- If at home, your whānau will be close contacts and also need to self-isolate as per the guidelines
- Support for testing and care will be provided by the Regional Ministry of Health

Q 3 My child is a close contact. What does this mean?

A: This means your child has had close contact with a positive case.

- Your child must self-isolate for seven days from the date they had contact with the case
- Testing must happen on Day 5 (PCR test required at this point in time)
- Your child can stop isolating and return to school after a negative Day 5 test and once 7 days have passed (i.e they return on Day 8); we would appreciate evidence of negative test results prior to returning to school (see diagram below)

How do the isolation days work for close contacts?

(this scenario below show how the timeframes can work)

Day 0	Day 1	Day 2	Day 3	Day 4	Day 5	Day 6	Day 7	Day 8
Child is at school	Child is at school	Child feels unwell, stays home and has a Covid test	Child stays home to await results	<p>Positive test result received. Family contacts the school. The infectious date is determined by the date 48 hours before the symptoms began.</p> <p>The school communicates with all families affected.</p> <p>The 7 day isolation period links back to the last day that your child was at school with the child who was Covid positive.</p>	Close contacts have Covid test	Close contacts isolate at home	Close contacts isolate at home	<p>If your child has received a negative Day 5 test result and is showing no new symptoms they may return to school (please provide evidence)</p> <p>NB: results may not be received until days 9 or 10 depending on test result delays.</p>



Please note that due to Covid test delays, this timeframe will likely be extended. We will provide updated timeframes based on each individual case.

<p>Q 4: What will the school do if there is a positive case?</p>	<p>A: We follow a response plan that is guided by the Ministry of Health and Ministry of Education</p> <p>This involves:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none">- Seeking confirmation of the positive case and time frames around the infectious period- If this is a school day, we will establish contact tracing- We will advise classes that are close contacts via email and a phone call home- If this occurs during the day, whānau will be phoned and asked to collect their child as soon as possible (from the bus bay)- The rest of the school will be advised of the case (some of whom will be casual contacts if they are in the same team as the positive case, as they eat/play outside during break times)
<p>Q 5: A member of our household is a close contact. How does this affect my child?</p>	<p>A: Your child is classed as a casual (or secondary) contact, so they can attend school as they have had no direct contact with the positive case.</p> <p>If the household member tests positive, then your child becomes a close contact and must self-isolate for seven days (see Q. 3)</p>
<p>Q 6: If my child is a close contact, does the rest of our household need to self-isolate?</p>	<p>A: An household member would be classed as a casual (or secondary) contact as they have had no direct contact with the case so they do not have to self-isolate</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none">- Monitor for symptoms and get tested if symptomatic

<p>Q 7: My child is a casual contact at school. What does this mean?</p>	<p>A: Your child was at school when there was a positive case. They have had no, or minimal interaction, with the case concerned. Your child is able to attend school.</p> <p>We do ask:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none">- Whānau to watch for symptoms such as sore throat, runny nose, cough, fever- Get tested if symptoms develop- Stay at home until you receive a result. If negative, your child can return to school once well- If positive, follow the isolation guidelines as in Q. 2. You will be contacted and guided by MOH- Please keep a close eye out for all school communications
<p>Q 8: How do we work out who is a close contact or a casual contact at school?</p>	<p>A: There are detailed criteria for determining this. Some of the considerations are:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none">- Location- Time spent in the location- Others present in the location- Movements of the case concerned- Ventilation of the location- Mask wearing
<p>Q 9: With everything going on, my child is feeling anxious. What can I do?</p>	<p>A: At MIS, we are taking every precaution to ensure our students and staff are kept as safe as possible e.g. teaching our students about hygiene etiquette, class bubbles, team break times, no assemblies, mask breaks etc</p> <p>Teachers are being careful to focus on positive solutions and encouraging students to take responsibility for themselves, one another, and show empathy and understanding.</p> <p>kidshealth.org.nz has some good resources that might help you if your child is anxious.</p> <p>We also have a school counsellor who your child could talk to.</p>

Q 10: My child is self-isolating. What learning will be provided?

A: If the whole class is isolating, and the teacher is well, distance learning can continue from home through Google Classroom.

If your child has a device at home and can access the internet, all classes have Google Classroom operational. This will enable your child to access learning from home.

If you don't have access to a device, we have a small number of devices we can loan out for brief periods; please let us know when we phone/email you if this is something you would like us to organise for your child. You will need to sign a device loan agreement on picking your child up.

Hard copy learning packs are available from the office; let us know if you would like one.

[Learning from Home](#) can be accessed via the Internet; this offers a variety of useful resources to support your child while isolating.

If a student or teacher is unwell, there is NO expectation for them to be working from home.

As we work through this current Covid-19 environment (in partnership with MOE and MOH) please keep us informed of any developments with your child or in your household; remember to please keep your child home if they are unwell and phone/email the office: 07 889 6629

We are here to support you - please reach out to us if there is anything further we can do to help.

Kia kaha, kia maia, kia manawanui.

Jenny Clark

Principal