



Kentlyn Public School

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Friday 25 February 2022

Rapid Antigen Test Kits and Masks – 3rd Delivery

Will be given out to each student to bring home on Thursday 3 March 2022

Dear Parents/Carers,

I hope you are all well and staying safe. Please know that our school, like all schools in the state, will continue to operate with several COVID-smart measures that have been developed with NSW Health to minimise transmission and keep schools open.

Our school, like all schools in Campbelltown network, will once again be handing out Rapid Antigen Test (RAT) Kits and masks. Each student will receive 8 RAT kits which will support you to monitor your child's flu like symptoms until the end of Term 1.

THE RAT KITS WILL BE GIVEN OUT TO EACH STUDENT ON THURSDAY 3 MARCH 2022. PLEASE ENSURE THAT YOU CHECK YOUR CHILD'S BAG AND STORE THEM IN A SAFE PLACE.

Starting Week 6 our school will operate with several COVID-smart measures that have been developed with NSW Health to minimise transmission and keep schools open.

These key measures include:

- use of rapid antigen tests by students and staff
- ensuring all workers (including volunteers) on school sites meet mandatory double vaccination requirements
- maximising ventilation
- encouraging regular hand washing and continuing enhanced cleaning of schools
- assessing risk and applying appropriate safeguards across activities and events
- learning from home where face-to-face learning is not possible.

Testing

From Monday 28 February, schools will align with community settings of 'symptomatic testing' and the department will provide 8 tests per student and staff. If your child has even mild COVID-19 symptoms, get them tested with a RAT or PCR (nose and throat swab) test. They must isolate until they receive a negative test result, in line with health protocols. If symptoms continue, they should stay at home and take another RAT in 24 hours or have a PCR test. If the second RAT or initial PCR test result is negative, or another diagnosis is confirmed such as hay fever, they can return to school.

It is recommended that staff and students that return to school after recovering from COVID-19 do not participate in rapid antigen test surveillance for 28 days (4 weeks after recovery) following release from self-isolation. This is due to NSW Health advice that people who have recovered from COVID-19 have a low risk of contracting it again in the following 28 days. After 28 days (from week 5 after recovery), staff and students may resume participation in RAT surveillance.

The use of RAT kits is an important step to support the health and wellbeing of our students and

staff. They are a quick and easy screening tool to help detect COVID-19. It is a simple process of placing a nose or throat swab in a chemical solution, which is put onto a scanning device. Results can be ready within 15 minutes. Use of RAT kits is highly recommended but not mandatory.

Instructions are included in the kits detailing how to use the tests, check the results and dispose of the tests safely. You can also download the instructions through the Therapeutic Goods Administration. <https://www.tga.gov.au/covid-19-rapid-antigen-self-tests-are-approved-australia>
The user guides will also contain a contact number for the suppliers if you need additional support.

For positive COVID-19 cases

If there is a positive case in your child's class, year or other grouping, your child can continue to attend school in line with NSW Health advice.

If a student or staff member receives a positive RAT test, they need to:

- record the positive RAT result through the [Service NSW](#) or [Service NSW link](#)
- **notify the school of the positive RAT or PCR test result as soon as possible**
- follow [NSW Health advice](#) to isolate for 7 days.

<https://www.health.nsw.gov.au/Infectious/covid-19/Pages/self-isolation-and-testing.aspx>

Negative results do not need to be reported to Service NSW or to the school.

Please visit the website below for further information.

<https://education.nsw.gov.au/covid-19/advice-for-families?deliveryName=DM16417>

Visitors on school grounds

From Monday 28 February, schools and early childhood education can invite visitors – including parents, carers and families – to their sites regardless of their vaccination status, in line with settings in the broader community. **All visitors will be asked to wear a mask if entering the school grounds until Monday 7 March 2022, when this ban is officially lifted.**

Workers and volunteers who must meet mandatory double vaccination requirements include:

- volunteers or staff operating uniform shops and canteens
- visitors supporting school operations and curriculum delivery
- allied health partners for the wellbeing of students
- university and TAFE students coming on school sites to complete their practicum or teacher training.

Thank you for your continued support.

Androula Kavallaris

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Principal