

Novel coronavirus – 2019-nCoV

Important update for education services

29 January 2020



Important update: Change in advice to people who have travelled to China

There has been a change in the public health advice to people who have travelled to China.

Childcare, school and TAFE:

- Contacts of any confirmed novel coronavirus case must self-isolate and should not attend school, childcare or TAFE for 14 days following latest exposure with the case.
- Returned travellers who have visited China, including Hong Kong, should not attend school, childcare or TAFE for 14 days after leaving China, including Hong Kong.
- This includes students, teachers and anyone who works or attends these facilities.

All travellers:

- Contacts of any confirmed novel coronavirus case must self-isolate for 14 days following latest exposure to the case.
- Returned travellers who have visited Hubei Province of China need to self-isolate for 14 days after leaving Hubei Province.

Self-isolation means staying at home and not accepting visitors.

Why has the advice changed?

This is a precautionary measure following brand new advice around the timeframe that people may be contagious before showing symptoms.

Where can I get further information?

For further information about 2019-nCoV visit:

Queensland Health website <https://www.health.qld.gov.au/>

Australian Government Department of Health website <https://www.health.gov.au/>

Telephone: 13HEALTH (13 43 25 84)

Novel coronavirus – 2019-nCov

Information for education services

2019-nCoV is a new strain of coronavirus that has not been previously identified in humans. Coronaviruses are a large family of viruses that cause illness ranging from the common cold to more severe diseases such as Middle East Respiratory Syndrome (MERS) and Severe Acute Respiratory Syndrome (SARS).

Much remains to be understood about the new coronavirus, which was first identified in Wuhan, China in early January 2020.

Cases have been identified in countries outside of China including, Australia, France, South Korea, Thailand, Japan, Taiwan, Vietnam, Macau, Singapore and the United States. It likely this virus will be identified in other countries as well.

What are the symptoms?

The virus can cause a range of symptoms, from ranging from mild illness to pneumonia. People may experience:

- fever
- flu-like symptoms such as coughing, sore throat and headaches
- difficult breathing in some cases.

How is 2019-nCoV spread?

There is evidence of human-to-human transmission, as some cases have not reported contact with the initial known source.

The majority of cases have so far been in people who have been in Wuhan or visited Wuhan in the Province of Hubei in China.

What if students who have links to Wuhan or the Province of Hubei in China or another confirmed case become unwell?

They should not attend school or classes and consult their GP or health provider without any delay. Please ring ahead to advise the health provider that you will be attending so they may take any necessary precautions.

For further information contact 13 HEALTH.

Where can I get further information?

For further information about 2019-nCoV visit:

<http://disease-control.health.qld.gov.au/condition/837/2019-ncov>

<https://www.health.gov.au/health-topics/novel-coronavirus-2019-ncov>

