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The Hon. Gabrielle Upton MP
Member for Vaucluse



31 December 2021

Dear Resident

The NSW Premier today announced that NSW will adopt the nationally consistent definition of a 'close' contact and isolation periods for COVID positive cases. The Premier's announcement is below.

I've also included today's NSW daily health update as well as information on local testing clinics.

Wishing you and your loved ones a happy and safe New Year!

Kind regards

A handwritten signature in blue ink, appearing to read 'Gabrielle'.

Friday, 31 December 2021

NATIONALLY CONSISTENT PRINCIPLES TO PROVIDE CERTAINTY

The NSW Government will adopt nationally consistent principles for the definition of a close contact and isolation periods for COVID positive cases, and remove mandatory

PCR testing requirements for international arrivals.

Following yesterday's National Cabinet the NSW Government will immediately implement the below arrangements for COVID cases and contacts:

Positive COVID-19 case	<p>7 days isolation commencing on the day of testing.</p> <p>Unless otherwise advised a person may leave isolation after 7 days without formal notification or a further test.</p> <p>People in this category must take precautions (mask etc) and avoid high risk settings, such as hospitals and aged care for a further 3 days.</p>
Close contacts Defined as: <ul style="list-style-type: none">• A household contact, or where more than four hours of exposure has occurred in a residential setting; and• Contacts in a setting where Health has determined there to be a high level of transmission.	<p>7 days isolation from the day of exposure, and obtain a PCR test as soon as possible.</p> <p>High risk settings, such as hospitals and aged care should be avoided for a further 7 days.</p> <p>A rapid antigen test (RAT) is required at Day 6 and, if positive, must be followed by a PCR test.</p>
All other contacts	<p>Monitor for symptoms and if symptoms develop, undertake a PCR test.</p>
If you have symptoms	<p>Obtain a PCR test if you have symptoms at any time.</p>

These contact and isolation arrangements apply to all people, regardless of vaccination status. NSW Health is developing guidelines to allow social contacts to assess their risk.

Effective immediately testing requirements for international travellers will also be revised. All fully vaccinated international travellers and flight crew arriving in NSW will be required to undertake a Rapid Antigen Test on days one and six after arrival.

Symptomatic arrivals will be required to get a PCR as soon as possible and isolate until negative result is received. If the PCR test is positive, the arrival must treat themselves as a positive case.

Under existing arrangements, all international travellers and flight crew are also required to produce a negative pre-departure test, within three days of boarding their flight. Unvaccinated arrivals will continue to be quarantined (capped at 210 per week) and require PCR testing.

Guidelines will be developed recommending international arrivals not attend at an aged care, health care, disability care or correctional facility for 7 days after arrival.

Premier Dominic Perrottet said this approach to dealing with COVID would provide certainty for people as we continue to chart a course out of the pandemic.

“Across the country we have done an incredible job in getting vaccinated to protect people and our health systems. High vaccination rates mean we can adapt our response to deal with the new challenges that come our way,” Mr Perrottet said.

“These changes will ensure our health system continues to work for people who need it most. We need everyone to keep playing their part and to only come forward to get tested if they have a medical need or are directed to do so.

“NSW has one of the highest vaccination rates in the world and it is vital we maintain that advantage and people book in for their booster shots as soon as they can to protect themselves, their families and the community.”

Health Minister Brad Hazzard said it was important our health system was reserved for people who needed it.

“Our frontline health workers have done an amazing job over the past two years and their efforts have helped keep countless people safe and we can’t thank them enough,” Mr Hazzard said.

“As we learn to live with COVID, people must make sure they only seek testing if they are feeling unwell, or are otherwise advised to get tested.”

COVID-19 STATISTICS FOR THE VAUCLUSE ELECTORATE

Source: [NSW Government Website](#) (accessed at 2:00pm 31 December 2021).

State-wide vaccination rates can be viewed [here](#).

Post Code	Suburbs	Active COVID Cases	Vaccination Rate (1st dose/2nd dose) 15y.o+
2030	Watsons Bay, Dover Heights, Vaucluse, Rose Bay North	301	90%+ / 90%+
2029	Rose Bay	229	90%+ / 90%+
2028	Double Bay	120	70-80% / 70-80%
2027	Point Piper, Darling Point, Edgecliff	128	80-90% / 80-90%
2026	Bondi, Bondi Beach, North Bondi	1054	80-90% / 80-90%
2025	Woollahra	161	80-90% / 80-90%
2023	Bellevue Hill	248	80-90% / 80-90%
2022	Bondi Junction, Queens Park	401	80-90% / 80-90%

31 December 2021

NSW PUBLIC HEALTH ALERT - COVID-19 STATISTICS

To Wednesday 29 December 2021 across NSW, 95 per cent of people aged 16 and over have received a first dose of a COVID-19 vaccine, and 93.6 per cent have received two doses.

Of the people aged 12 to 15, 81.5 per cent have received a first dose of COVID-19 vaccine, and 78.2 per cent have received two doses.

The total number of vaccines administered in NSW is now 13,648,551, with 4,368,796 administered by NSW Health to 8pm last night and 9,279,755 administered by the GP network, pharmacies and other providers to 11.59pm on Tuesday 29 December 2021.

NSW Health encourages everyone who is eligible to book into a NSW Health vaccination clinic or another provider without delay through the [COVID-19 vaccine clinic finder](#).

Booster doses of COVID-19 vaccine are now available for people aged 18 and over. We urge people to get their booster dose as soon as they are eligible, to best protect yourself, your loved ones and the community from the ongoing transmission of COVID-19. We also strongly recommend that people aged 12 years and over who are severely immunocompromised have a third primary dose of vaccine from two months after their second dose.

Sadly, NSW Health is today reporting the deaths of six people.

A woman in her 80s from western Sydney died at Nepean Hospital. She was a resident of Fitzgerald Aged Care in Windsor, where she acquired her infection. She had received two doses of a COVID-19 vaccine.

A man in his 70s from south-western Sydney died at Liverpool Hospital. He was not vaccinated.

A man in his 70s from the Newcastle area died at John Hunter Hospital. He was a resident of the Kilpatrick Court aged care facility in Toronto, where he acquired his infection. He had received two doses of a COVID-19 vaccine.

A woman in her 60s from western Sydney died at Liverpool Hospital. She had received one dose of a COVID-19 vaccine.

A man in his 90s from Sydney's north shore died at Royal North Shore Hospital. He had received two doses of a COVID-19 vaccine.

A man in his 70s from south-western Sydney died at Concord Hospital. He had received two doses of a COVID-19 vaccine.

NSW Health expresses its sincere condolences to their loved ones.

There are currently 832 COVID-19 cases admitted to hospital, with 69 people in intensive care, 19 of whom require ventilation.

There were 148,410 COVID-19 tests reported to 8pm last night, compared with the previous day's total of 97,201.

NSW recorded 21,151 new cases of COVID-19 in the 24 hours to 8pm last night.

Twenty COVID-19 cases have been excluded following further investigation, bringing the total number of cases in NSW since the beginning of the pandemic to 187,315.

Testing capacity in NSW is currently under enormous pressure and the only people getting a PCR (nose and throat swab) should be those who have COVID-19 symptoms; live in a household with a confirmed COVID-19-positive case; or have otherwise been advised by NSW Health to get tested.

This applies to people who are fully or partially vaccinated, as well as those not vaccinated.

Rapid antigen testing can be an additional precaution that you can take if you are planning to socialise with large groups of people, particularly indoors, or interacting with people who are elderly or have serious health conditions. Information on how to use rapid antigen tests is available on the NSW Government [website](#).

Around a quarter of people exposed to COVID-19 may still develop their infection after seven days. For the subsequent seven-day period, they should exercise caution and avoid high-risk settings and large indoor gatherings, and use a rapid antigen test if coming into contact with vulnerable people.

NSW Health urges the community to continue to practise COVID-safe behaviours on New Year's Eve. One of the most effective ways of reducing the spread of COVID-19 is to stick to small groups when socialising and to keep events preferably outdoors, and ensure good ventilation when indoors.

If heading to a venue, use the Service NSW check-in app where available, wear a mask and practise physical distancing.

Of the 21,151 cases reported to 8pm last night, 4,647 are from South Eastern Sydney Local Health District (LHD), 3,439 are from South Western Sydney LHD, 2,919 are from Western Sydney LHD, 2,278 are from Sydney LHD, 2,194 are from Northern Sydney LHD, 1,983 are from Hunter New England LHD, 821 are from Illawarra Shoalhaven LHD, 632 are from Nepean Blue Mountains LHD, 597 are from Central Coast LHD, 260 are from Northern NSW LHD, 244 are from Western NSW LHD, 159 are from Southern NSW LHD, 131 are from Murrumbidgee LHD, 121 are from Mid North Coast LHD, six are from Far West LHD, and 720 are yet to be assigned to an LHD.

If you are directed to [get tested](#) for COVID-19 or [self-isolate](#) at any time, you must follow the self-isolation [rules](#).

If you have any [COVID-19 symptoms](#), no matter how mild, [get tested](#) immediately and self-isolate until you receive a negative test result.

There are more than 450 COVID-19 testing locations across NSW, many of which are open seven days a week. To find your nearest clinic visit [COVID-19 clinics](#) or contact your GP.

COVID-19 TESTING CLINICS

Residents are encouraged to get tested when they have even the mildest of symptoms. Here are some testing clinics in the local area with private testing also available via GPs:

- **Bondi Junction Respiratory Clinic**, 47 Spring Street, Bondi Junction (9am-5:00pm Mon-Fri & 9:00am-11:30am Sat - [Appointments required](#))
- **Bondi Junction 4Cyte Pathology Walk-in Clinic**, 50 Bronte Road, Bondi Junction (This clinic will reopen on 3 January 2022, 8am-6pm Tues & Wed)
- **Bondi Junction Laverty Pathology drive-through and walk-through Clinic**, Level 2 carpark, 34 Waverley Street, Bondi Junction (This clinic will reopen on 3 January 2022, 8am-4pm Tues & 8am-6pm Wed)

- **Rose Bay drive-through Lavery Pathology**, Lyne Park, Vickery Avenue Car Park, Rose Bay (8am-12pm Sun-Fri - reduced hours during the New Year period. Closed on New Years Day)
- **Bondi Beach drive-through Clinic**, Entry on junction of Campbell Parade and Beach Road (8:30am-12pm 7 days).
- **St Vincent's clinic at the East Sydney Community Centre**, 34-40 Burton Street, Darlinghurst (8am-4:30pm 7 days - closed on Christmas Day and New Year's Day)
- **Prince of Wales Hospital**, Building 14B Avoca Street, Randwick (9am-8pm Tues-Thurs & Sun, 9am-5pm Fri, Sat & Mon)

To view all NSW COVID-19 clinics, please click [here](#).

[Information on NSW Public Health Orders and restrictions](#)

[Information on COVID-19 Vaccination in NSW](#)

[Information for NSW Businesses and Employees](#)

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