

# COVID-19 update 23 July 2021



Dear service provider

On Friday 23 July the NSW Government made changes to the Greater Sydney stay at home orders in place until 30 July 2021. This email provides you with an update on:

1. COVID-19 tests for workers living in Fairfield, Canterbury Bankstown, Cumberland and Blacktown LGAs and Greater Sydney workers
2. COVID-19 testing
3. DCJ service provision in Greater Sydney areas impacted by the stay at home orders
4. COVID-19 resources in community languages

**Please note:** we are sharing this information with all service providers. We realise there is a lot of information in this email, and you may only want to read what is relevant to you.

## 1. COVID-19 tests for Fairfield and Canterbury Bankstown and Greater Sydney workers

From Wednesday 14 July, the NSW Public Health Orders required workers living in the Fairfield LGA to get a COVID-19 test when leaving home to go to work.

From Friday 23 July, these rules have been extended to people living in the Canterbury Bankstown LGA who are working in Aged Care or Health Care.

From Saturday 24 July workers in Cumberland and Blacktown LGAs will only be allowed to leave their LGA if they are an authorised worker. No surveillance testing for Cumberland and Blacktown residents has been announced at this time.

You don't need to get the results of your COVID-19 test before going to or staying at work.

You must have proof of your COVID-19 test such as an SMS text message on your phone or an email addressed to you.

You don't need to have a COVID-19 test if you are working at someone's home.

### Fairfield LGA

If you live in or are staying in the Fairfield LGAs but you work outside this area, you must have a COVID-19 test once every 72 hours (3 days) in order to be allowed to enter a workplace.

### Canterbury Bankstown LGA

If you live in or are staying in the Canterbury Bankstown LGAs but you work outside this area **and are an aged care or health worker**, you must have a COVID-19 test once every 72 hours (3 days) in order to be allowed to enter a workplace.

An aged care worker is a person who works in a residential aged care facility.

A health care worker is a person who:

- provides health services within the meaning of the Health Services Act 1997 (whether public or private sector)
- is a registered health practitioner
- works for a registered health practitioner or
- provides ancillary services to a health practitioner, such as cleaners, cooks and security providers at hospitals.

Check the [COVID-19 tests for Greater Sydney Workers](#) page for more information.

## Cumberland and Blacktown LGAs

If you live in or are staying in the Cumberland and Blacktown LGAs you will only be allowed to leave your LGA if you are an [authorised worker](#).

DCJ has issued a letter to a number of service providers confirming that activities you are doing on our behalf are considered essential. For some service types – e.g. Specialist Homelessness Services where your staff cannot do their work other than face-to-face, you may issue a letter of authorisation for your staff to carry with them. If your staff can perform their work in any other way than face-to-face – e.g. by phone or video call, please do that.

No mandatory COVID-19 testing for these LGAs has been announced at this time.

## Greater Sydney

If you live in or are staying in Greater Sydney, including the Blue Mountains, Central Coast, Wollongong and Shellharbour LGAs, and your workplace is 50km or more outside Greater Sydney, you must have a COVID-19 test in the 7 days before working. You can check a [map of the 50km zone around Greater Sydney](#).

## For employers

You can ask to see an employee's proof of COVID-19 test if they live in the Fairfield LGA, if they live in the Canterbury Bankstown LGA and work in **Aged Care or Health Care**, or if you are located 50km or more outside Greater Sydney and they live in Greater Sydney, the Blue Mountains, Central Coast, Wollongong or Shellharbour LGAs.

You must not allow someone to work if they have not had a COVID-19 test in the set timeframes.

You can find more information on the [NSW Government website](#).

## 2. COVID-19 testing

NSW Health is urging anyone experiencing any COVID-19 symptoms to come forward for testing immediately, even if you have been fully or partially vaccinated.

COVID-19 testing clinics are available across NSW and many testing clinics in Greater Sydney have increased their hours of operation with the recent outbreak. You can find up to date information on opening hours and your nearest COVID-19 testing clinic on the [NSW Health website](#).

## 3. DCJ service provision in the Greater Sydney areas impacted by stay at home orders

We'll continue to deliver child protection face-to-face assessments where it's safe to do so. This includes joint visits with non-government organisations. For more information see the [delivering essential services](#) web page.

If you have any questions about joint home visiting, please contact your local Manager Client Services or Director Community Services. If you are unsure who the local Manager Client Services or Director Community Services are, you can contact your contract manager.

We'll undertake all out-of-home care home visits virtually or postpone them unless there are safety concerns.

Routine client service visits will be rescheduled or held virtually where possible. High risk visits will go ahead where essential only.

Child protection and out of home care services in regional areas not impacted by the stay at home orders will proceed as planned with the appropriate safety precautions including use of PPE.

## 4. COVID-19 resources in community languages

You can [hear Community Leaders in many languages urging our communities to stay at home](#).

[Social media resources](#) about the stay at home orders, including no visitors in the home are available in almost 60 languages.

Please share these video and social media resources widely with your communities and networks.

We're actively monitoring the COVID-19 situation and we'll continue to provide regular updates. The [NSW Government COVID-19 website](#) is the best place to keep informed on what you need to know about the current situation.

You can also find more information on the [DCJ COVID-19 latest updates](#) and [DCJ program specific advice](#) webpages.

We're here to support you. If you need help, please contact your contract manager or email us at [COVID19.Support@fac.s.nsw.gov.au](mailto:COVID19.Support@fac.s.nsw.gov.au)

Regards

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