

18 June 2020

## ACT Health advice for schools as COVID-19 restrictions ease

## Dear parents/carers

ACT Health previously communicated with parents and carers on the 7<sup>th</sup> of May about conditions required for return of students to class. Since this time, restrictions have further eased, with the major change being that as of 19 June 2020:

- Parents can now attend schools for scheduled events
- Small assemblies, religious services and performances can resume, in line with the Public Health Direction on gathering sizes (100 people maximum or 1 person per 4 m<sup>2</sup>, whichever is lesser).

ACT Health has advised that where possible, parents/carers should still avoid routinely entering the school grounds and must practise physical distancing around other adults at schools. However, where scheduled events are planned, like parent teacher interviews or small assemblies, parents can attend the school.

As restrictions ease, it is important that all members of our community continue to practise good hand hygiene, physical distancing, stay home if unwell and get tested if they have symptoms of COVID-19. Visitors should be asked to provide their details when they attend the school, so that in the event of a case being identified at the school, ACT Health is be able to rapidly conduct contact tracing.

The previous advice provided from the CHO on the 7<sup>th</sup> of May, still applies. As COVID-19 restrictions ease in the ACT, there is the potential for transmission of COVID-19 to increase. Therefore, more now than ever it is important that frequent and thorough school cleaning, physical distancing between adults, good hand and respiratory hygiene and early testing are carried out by all members of the ACT school community.

Your sincerely

Dr Kerryn Coleman ACT Chief Health Officer