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| Children's Education and Care Assurance |
| 31 March 2021**Important COVID-19 Information for ACT education and care services** On Monday, Dr Coleman, ACT Chief Health Officer put in place a new [Public Health Direction](https://www.covid19.act.gov.au/community/travel/queensland-qld#COVID-19-affected-areas-of-Queensland information) declaring Greater Brisbane a COVID-19 affected area. This Public Health Direction came into effect at 6pm (AEDT) on Monday 29 March 2021.ACT residents are advised not to travel to Greater Brisbane while these travel restrictions are in effect. At this time, these travel restrictions will remain in place until at least 6pm (AEDT) Thursday 1 April 2021. With Easter and the school holidays starting next weekend, it is important that anyone with upcoming travel plans is keeping up to date with the situation in Queensland and be prepared to change travel plans at short notice. Requirements under the Direction for ACT Residents:* If you have returned to the ACT and were in Greater Brisbane on or after 15 March, you must immediately enter quarantine until at least 6pm (ACT time) 1 April, get tested for COVID-19, and complete an online declaration form within the following 24 hours. At this time, people should remain in quarantine until at least 6pm (ACT time) 1 April, even if they return a negative result, but this could be extended for up to 14 days.
* If you have returned to the ACT and were in Greater Brisbane between 11-14 March inclusive, you must get tested for COVID-19 and self-isolate until you receive a negative result.
* If you are currently in Greater Brisbane, we encourage you to stay where you are and follow the Queensland health advice. However, if it is essential you return, you must complete an online declaration form as soon as possible prior to travelling, quarantine upon your return to the ACT, and get tested for COVID-19.

Requirements under the Direction for non-ACT Residents:* If you are considering travel to the ACT and have been in Greater Brisbane in the last 14 days, you should not travel at this time. If you need to travel for an extraordinary circumstance, you will need an approved exemption from ACT Health, and this exemption must be granted prior to travel.
* If you are currently in the ACT and were in Greater Brisbane on or after 15 March, you must immediately enter quarantine until at least 6pm (ACT time) 1 April, get tested for COVID-19, and complete an online declaration form within the following 24 hours. At this time, people should remain in quarantine until at least 6pm (ACT time) 1 April, even if they return a negative result, but this could be extended for up to 14 days.
* If you are currently in the ACT and were in Greater Brisbane between 11-14 March inclusive, you must get tested for COVID-19 and self-isolate until you receive a negative result.

Providers, Services and Nominated Supervisors should keep up to date with the evolving situation and advise staff and families to follow health advice and self-isolate if they have attended any hotspots.Providers, Services and Nominated Supervisors should monitor educators, staff and children for any COVID-19 symptoms (fever, cough, sore throat, shortness of breath, loss of taste or smell, runny or blocked nose - no matter how mild). Any person showing COVID-19 symptoms should get tested immediately and self-isolate until their test result are returned. Please note staff and children must be excluded from the service until a negative test result is returned. For COVID-19 testing clinic locations visit [http://www.covid19.act.gov.au/.../symptoms-and-getting...](http://www.covid19.act.gov.au/stay-safe-and-healthy/symptoms-and-getting-tested?fbclid=IwAR3z9TMjHSQsTe39dBsktFozrFJIPmktIrNSDU1F02-5vHDZNBVLa1XtnGM#COVID-19-Testing-Clinic-locations)We know these measures will affect some of you directly and come as very disappointing with the Easter break ahead. However, the quarantine period is in place to reduce the risk of an outbreak in the ACT and taking these measures now will help protect educators, children, families and our broader community. For enquires in relation to this notification please email CECA@ACT.gov.au. We will respond to your questions as soon as we can and update our frequently asked questions on our [webpage](https://www.education.act.gov.au/early-childhood/information-on-novel-coronavirus-covid-19-for-early-childhood).  For enquires in relation to this notification please call CECA on (02) 6207 1114 or email CECA@ACT.gov.au.This email has been authorised by the ACT Regulatory Authority (CECA). CECA are responsible for administering the National Quality Framework within the ACT. |

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