

Christian RI is committed to working fully and responsibly within the Queensland COVID Planning Framework (2021) applicable to State schools. You can access this information from the website directly yourself via:

<https://qed.qld.gov.au/about-us/news-and-media/novel-coronavirus/covid-19-operating-guidelines-for-queensland-state-schools>

All RI Instructors, Coordinators, and helpers must follow:

- this framework, specifically related to visitors,
- any additional directives or requirements of a School Principal and Responsible Person,
- any school COVID-19 declaration requirements.

**This is essential reading for everyone, particularly the ‘visitor’ section.**

### So what’s different?

<p><b>Tiered Action Levels</b></p> <p>The Queensland COVID Planning Framework (2021) guides through tiered action levels. RI remains fully able to operate within a state school at Action level 1 – COVID normal. When Action level 2 is reached, the Principal and Responsible Officer decide if RI can continue. Action levels 3 &amp; 4 clearly state visitors <u>not allowed</u> on site.</p>	<p><b>Christian RI</b> continues to <b>recommend</b> that any RI practitioners who may identify as <u>vulnerable</u> or live with someone who is vulnerable:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• read carefully health advice by Queensland Government; <a href="https://www.covid19.qld.gov.au">https://www.covid19.qld.gov.au</a></li> <li>• discuss with your local doctor, family or other household members who may be vulnerable, your coordinator or pastor/minister/priest;</li> <li>• teach RI only if you are safe and confident to do so;</li> <li>• complete self-declaration requirements of the School or Christian RI.</li> </ul>
<p><b>Vulnerable Persons</b></p> <p>Within this Plan, vulnerable person considerations relate to employees/staff. RI in Queensland is largely undertaken by faithful volunteers, some of whom may have previously been classified as vulnerable. Please see our recommendations in the next column.</p>	
<p><b>COVID-19 Self Declaration</b></p> <p>State schools should have a COVID-19 Declaration System in place. This will range from declarations completed through handheld or other electronic devices or a paper-based declaration system. The questions within this system may be different to those in 2020 due primarily to the changes in how each state and territory in Australia has guidelines on COVID-19.</p>	<p><b>Christian RI</b> has developed, as an additional safe practice measure, a Christian RI COVID-19 Self-Declaration form. We suggest that RI Instructors, Coordinators and helpers have this on their person the first time they attend school in Term 1 in case the school does not have its own declaration system. Please use this declaration until such time as the school has its own system. Should be completed weekly.</p>

**PRAY** for RI, the safety of your students, and the whole school community.

**NOTE:** The links provided in this document are current as at the date of its release 8 February 2021.

# Being COVID-19 Safe in 2021

## BE FULLY INFORMED AND UP-TO-DATE

Follow all Queensland Health, Queensland Department of Education and your local state school requirements. *Reinforce your local school's COVID-19 Safe directives.* The following websites should be monitored for updates:

1

- <https://www.health.qld.gov.au/system-governance/legislation/cho-public-health-directions-under-expanded-public-health-act-powers>
- <https://ged.qld.gov.au/about-us/news-and-media/novel-coronavirus/covid-19-operating-guidelines-for-queensland-state-schools>
- <http://closures.det.qld.gov.au>
- <https://www.qld.gov.au/health/conditions/health-alerts/coronavirus-covid-19/current-status/contact-tracing>

Your approving church should have a COVID Safe Plan and this may include requirements for volunteers in off-site situations (eg state schools or in the community). Follow these requirements.

2

## IF YOU ...

- Feel sick, stay at home - DO NOT ATTEND SCHOOL. This protects you and others.
- Have COVID-19 symptoms, no matter how mild, get tested - DO NOT ATTEND SCHOOL. Remain isolated at home until your test results are confirmed.
- Have had recent contact with a confirmed COVID-19 case follow the directions of government officers - DO NOT ATTEND SCHOOL.
- Have been in an identified hot spot (in Queensland or elsewhere) in the timespan announced by Queensland Health - DO NOT ATTEND SCHOOL. Self-quarantine for 14 days.

3

Schools must maintain appropriate health and hygiene measures. Check with your school. Continue the good practice of COVID-19 safe **health and hygiene**:

- Regular handwashing and hand sanitising, particularly before and after an RI lesson, after eating, and after going to the toilet;
- Cough-sneeze hygiene (cover nose and mouth with a tissue or bent elbow);

### Christian RI strongly encourage you to also

- Carry with you, at all times, an alcohol-based hand sanitiser containing at least 60% ethanol or 70% isopropanol. Must be in a sealed container.
- Carry a face mask with you when attending school so you are prepared should it be required.
- Bring your own sealed water bottle with water for personal use.
- Carry disinfection wipes and gloves should you be requested to wipe down high touch and common surfaces. Abide by any school cleaning protocol for shared items.
- After you cough-sneeze always wash hands or use hand sanitiser and dispose of used tissues immediately.
- Support the safe practices at the school with students regarding personal hygiene and cough-sneeze hygiene.

4

Schools must maintain appropriate physical distancing of adults. Check with your school. Continue the good practice of COVID-19 safe **physical distancing**:

- Take appropriate security measures if working in isolated areas of the school;
- Time spent at the school is for RI purposes only. Social connection with other RI people should be outside of school grounds.

### Christian RI strongly encourages you to also

- Have no physical contact with a student or staff member, eg shaking hands, hi-five or any form of touching or bumping.
- Avoid close contact with anyone who is unwell.

5

Guidelines for use of **shared equipment or loaned resources**. Shared equipment .... please follow school directions fully.

### Christian RI strongly encourage you to

- Maintain good practice, which includes taking all your own resources eg whiteboard markers and technology that links to the electronic tools in the room.