

Category	Description	Actions for the Case or Contact	Actions/Advice for Public Health/NITC/DHB
Healthcare workers who have been exposed to a case at work should follow instructions from their employer and/or refer to Risk Assessment and Categorisation of Healthcare Workers Exposed to COVID-19 .			
No contact	General public and surveillance testing	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Asymptomatic: self-monitor for symptoms Symptomatic: get a test, and stay at home until negative test result received AND until 24 hours after symptoms resolve 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> None
Close contact	Household members of a case	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Self-isolate from the day that the case receives their positive test result (or is identified as probable) until the case completes 10 days of self-isolation Whole household has the same day 0 as the initial case however household members only commence their isolation once the case has received a positive test result. Avoid or minimise contact with case to the greatest extent possible during the isolation period On day 3 and day 10 of isolation, the household members get a RAT Release when the first case in the household has completed day 10, provided the contact(s) have no new or worsening symptoms AND negative day 10 test If symptoms develop at any stage, get an additional test. If any of your test results are positive, commence 10 days self-isolation as a case Your self-isolation does not restart if additional members of the household are identified as cases 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Support critical infrastructure/health workforce to work using the Close Contact Exemption Scheme if required
	All other close contacts	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Known contacts notified via the case, their workplace or education settings; unknown contacts may be notified by Bluetooth No requirement to self-isolate Self-monitor for symptoms for 10 days If symptoms develop at any time during the 10 days, get a test immediately and stay at home until negative test result received AND until 24 hours after symptoms resolve 	
Case	Confirmed with a PCR test or RAT	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> PCR or RAT to confirm positive Upload of positive RAT to My Covid Record Notified by text message Complete online case investigation if possible Self-isolate at home for 10 days Avoid contact with other household members to the greatest extent possible during the isolation period Wear mask and physical distance in shared spaces Self-release after completion of 10 days of isolation 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Phone interviews for priority populations/incomplete forms/those who are unable to complete online case investigation form Manage complex case investigations and high risk exposure events Consider a managed isolation facility (MIF) in exceptional circumstances, for case and/or household members

Contact risk assessment

The following table should be used to guide assessment and management of contacts exposed during a case's infectious period.

The following table is **NOT** for:

- household - they are managed as a 10-day bubble with the case
- contacts in healthcare - refer to **Risk Assessment and Categorisation of Healthcare Workers Exposed to COVID-19**.

NOTE: An individual public health risk assessment should be carried out for contacts in residential facilities including aged care, correctional centres or other settings where cases and contacts interact frequently with people at high risk of severe illness.

	Type of interaction	Examples	Face covering worn by case ¹	
			Yes ²	No or unknown
Close range contact within 1.5m of case	Direct contact with respiratory secretions or saliva (indoors or outdoors) OR Face to face contact with a case who is forcefully expelling air/secretions FOR ANY DURATION OF TIME REGARDLESS OF FACE COVERING USE	Singing, shouting, coughing, sneezing Active play in close proximity (heavy breathing related to exertion) Kissing, spitting, hongi, sharing cigarettes or vapes	Close	Close
	Indoor face to face contact for more than 15 minutes	Having a conversation, sitting across a table from someone, eating together, playing together	Casual	Close
	Non-face to face contact for more than 1 hour in an indoor space	Sitting or playing near someone	Casual	Close
Higher risk indoor contact more than 1.5m away from case and no close-range contact	Indoor contact in a small space without good airflow/ventilation* for more than 15 minutes	Small offices, toilet blocks Close contact businesses such as hairdressers Buses, trains, taxis School classrooms, restaurants, cafes, bars	Casual	Close
	Indoor contact in a moderate sized space without good airflow/ventilation for more than 1 hour	Bars and pubs, Social gatherings, church sessions Indoor, high intensity sports, Gyms and indoor recreation settings	Casual	Close
Low risk contact (no close-range contact or higher risk indoor contact)	Large indoor settings (bigger than 300m ²) if none of the criteria above are present	School and community halls, exhibition centres, hardware stores, supermarkets	Casual	Casual
	Smaller indoor venues (less than 300m ²) with good air flow-ventilation for up to 2 hours	Well ventilated rooms/offices (e.g., windows open)		
	Brief indoor contact regardless of distance from case	Conversations <15 mins Passing each other in the corridor, sharing an elevator Collecting takeaways, click & collect services	Casual	Casual
	Contact in outdoor spaces FOR ANY DURATION OF TIME	Most outdoor recreation activities, including outdoor dining Non-contact outdoor sports, petrol station forecourts		
*Good air flow and ventilation is required to prevent virus particles accumulating in an indoor space. Good ventilation/airflow can be achieved by keeping windows open. Please refer to page 4 for guidance on ventilation.				

NOTE: Advice for Casual contacts is to follow the green 'No Contact' pathway

¹ For masks to be effective, it is important they are of sufficient quality (medical or multilayer cloth masks) are worn. Mask breaks are recommended to improve compliance over a workday. Masks should be changed if they become wet or dirty.

² Consistent use of a mask by a case will minimise the likelihood that other staff or students are Close Contacts. Wearing a mask for the entire day is very difficult. Short time periods without wearing a mask (less than 15 minutes) will not change the categorisation of other contacts in the same space, unless the case was coughing, sneezing or shouting at the time.