## Letter for parents and carers

Dear parents and carers

The Victorian Government has announced that additional COVIDSafe measures will be in place from 6pm on Tuesday 25 May, in metropolitan Melbourne.

Changes to the [COVIDSafe settings](https://www.coronavirus.vic.gov.au/coronavirus-covidsafe-settings) include new limits to public and private gatherings and changes to mask wearing in some settings.

Early childhood education and care services, including ours, will remain open with the current restrictions that are in place. There are no changes to existing density rules.

**If you are in Metropolitan Melbourne:**

* Service staff and any visiting children aged 12 or older must carry a face mask at all times and wear a face mask indoors when at a service, including when attending an Outside School Hours Care (OSHC) program, unless a [lawful exception applies](https://www.coronavirus.vic.gov.au/face-masks-when-wear-face-mask#lawful-excuses-or-exceptions-for-not-wearing-a-face-mask).
* Teachers, educators and education support staff are not required to wear face masks while educating or caring for children, but those who wish to do so, can.
* Children under 12 years of age are not required to wear face masks when attending an early childhood service, or an OSHSC program.
* Face masks are mandatory for all early childhood education and care staff on public transport and when in taxis or ride share vehicles. This includes travelling to and from your service on public transport or in a vehicle with others not from your household.
* Visitors and parents and carers must also observe face mask requirements.

**If you are in Regional Victoria:**

* Individuals aged 12 years and over (inclusive of staff, and visitors) must always carry a face mask – unless a [lawful exception applies](https://www.coronavirus.vic.gov.au/face-masks-when-wear-face-mask#lawful-excuses-or-exceptions-for-not-wearing-a-face-mask).
* Face masks are mandatory for people aged 12 years and older on public transport and when in taxis or ride share vehicles or touring vehicles. This includes travelling to and from your service on public transport.

Face mask requirements travel with staff and parents/carers who live in Metropolitan Melbourne if they attend a service in regional Victoria. Staff and parents/carers who live in regional Victoria but attend a service in Metropolitan Melbourne will also need to comply with face mask requirements for Metropolitan Melbourne.

These measures are aimed at giving health authorities the best opportunity to stop the spread of the virus in our community.

Thank you for your understanding and support as we continue to implement COVIDSafe practices at our service.

Regards

<SERVICE / PROVIDER>