

# COVID-19 professional visitor information

We are working closely with Queensland Health to limit the effect of novel coronavirus (COVID-19) on youth detention centres (YDCs). Our priority is the safety and wellbeing of young people, staff and the community. We have strategies in place to stop the spread of COVID-19, including:

- COVID-19 health checks and vaccinations for young people
- increased cleaning and sanitisation
- increased use of hand sanitisers and protective equipment
- extra staff training.

It is imperative that all professional visitors are aware of their obligations to comply with COVID-19 precautions. YDCs will make every effort to minimise the impact of these precautions, however, professional visitors should expect changes to the existing visit process and are asked to be patient while staff navigate requirements.

## Visiting a youth detention centre

It is important that young people continue to connect with their legal contacts and service providers while in a YDC. Staff will work with you to ensure you can stay in contact with young people.

## Vaccination requirements

The Government has implemented [new restrictions](#), which mean unvaccinated people are not able to visit YDCs. These changes will **commence on 17 December 2021**.

When you enter a YDC, you must provide proof that you are fully vaccinated. A person is considered fully vaccinated when they have had two doses of an approved COVID-19 vaccine.

There are three different types of proof available that you can get for free:

- a COVID-19 digital certificate
- your immunisation history statement (IHS)
- an International COVID-19 Vaccination Certificate for overseas travel.

For more information, search “types of vaccination proof” on [www.servicesaustralia.gov.au](http://www.servicesaustralia.gov.au).

The COVID-19 Digital Certificate or IHS can be viewed and/or printed through:

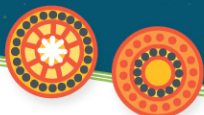
- Medicare Online via MyGov – [www.my.gov.au](http://www.my.gov.au)
- Express Plus Medicare mobile app
- My Health Record – [www.digitalhealth.gov.au/mhr-proof-of-vaccinations](http://www.digitalhealth.gov.au/mhr-proof-of-vaccinations)

YDCs will work with unvaccinated professional visitors to facilitate non-contact video link and phone visits with young people as required.

There are a small number of people who have genuine medical reasons for not being vaccinated. You will need to be able to show proof of your exemption from vaccination on genuine medical grounds. We are doing further work on how this will operate.

More information about Queensland vaccination requirements can be found by searching “Queensland restrictions from 17 December 2021” on the Queensland Government website ([www.qld.gov.au](http://www.qld.gov.au)).

You can also find [more information about COVID-19 vaccines or book your vaccination](#) on the Queensland Government website.



## Additional Screening

In addition to relevant vaccination requirements, everyone who comes to a YDC must have a COVID-19 screening before they enter.

People will not be allowed to enter the centre if they have:

- returned/arrived from overseas in the past 14 days
- been to any of the [declared COVID-19 hotspots](#) in the past 14 days (you can also find these by searching “COVID-19 hotspots” on [www.qld.gov.au](http://www.qld.gov.au))
- had contact with a confirmed case of COVID-19 in the past 14 days
- a fever or symptoms of acute respiratory infection (e.g. cough, sore throat, runny nose or shortness of breath)
- a temperature of over 37.5 degrees (checked before entry).

All visitors must check in using the Check In QLD app.

These safety measures are in place to keep everyone safe.

## During the visit

- Individual professional visits and group contact sessions will occur in an approved location or interview room with observed social distancing and allocated seating.
- All visitors must adhere to the visible floor directions and practice social distancing.
- To minimise risk of contagion, physical contact is prohibited (e.g. hand shaking, hugging).
- Approved resources such as paper and pens may be brought into the visit as per the usual approval processes, however the sharing of these resources with young people must be kept to a minimum (e.g. only provided if the young person’s signature is required).
- All pens and other items used for approved purposes during a professional visit must be sanitised prior to redistribution.

**Thank you for your patience and cooperation. Please contact the relevant youth detention centre if you require additional information regarding visits.**



**Stay home if you are sick**



**Wash your hands regularly**



**Cover your coughs and sneezes**



**Keep 1.5 metres away from others**



**Avoid touching your face**



**Get tested if you have symptoms**