



Friday 12 February 2021

VIC COVID-19 Update: New Circuit Breaker Actions- 5 Day Lockdown

Dear Families,

This afternoon, Friday 12 February, an announcement was made by the Victorian Government to carry-out a 5-day lockdown or "circuit- breaker action" within the state of Victoria from 11:59pm tonight, Friday 12 February, until 11:59pm on Wednesday, 17 February.

The Victorian Government [webpage](#) will provide you with details of specific restrictions and the latest updates.

During this period, the following Busy Bees Services will remain open to continue to provide care to our children and support our families:

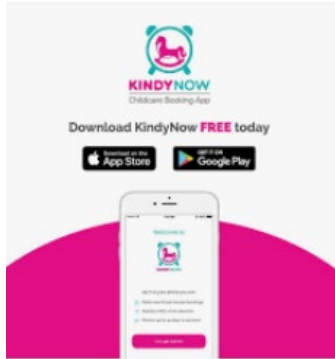
- Busy Bees at Cranbourne
- Busy Bees at Cranbourne Central
- Busy Bees at Diggers Rest
- Busy Bees at Sandringham
- Busy Bees at Williams Landing
- Busy Bees at Wyndham Vale

As a result of today's announcement, families attending one of our Services during the lockdown period will be required to wear a face covering during drop-off and pick-up times and during temperature checks and transitions to staff members. To support our COVID safe plan and all health and safety measures we have in place, parents will be asked to drop off and collect children at the foyer area of the service as access to the classrooms will be unavailable during the lockdown period.

We would like to remind families of the importance of completing temperature checks for all persons entering the service and recording this information accurately on the Busy Bees COVID-19 Health and Temperature Check Register each time you enter the service. Staff will continue to monitor children's' temperatures throughout the day, and should a child present with a temperature above 37.5 degrees, as per health advice, we will call a parent or emergency contact to have the child collected.

You will observe our staff wearing face coverings when in non-educational areas of our Services including in reception areas, staff rooms and the foyer.

We ask families that families follow the Victorian Government 5-day lockdown restrictions. In doing so, should your child not be attending our Services during the lock-down period, please advise us using the KindyNow App.



The KindyNow App provides Families with an easy way to notify us of your child's absences and this will assist us in roster management and will support staff in managing incoming phone calls at the service. Simply download the KindyNow app to get started:

If your child becomes unwell at home, we request that you do not bring them to the Service but inform us of the reason for their absence. The safeguarding of the health and wellbeing of our children, staff and wider communities is our top priority and we will continue to act in accordance with the latest public health advice from the relevant governments in Australia.

Where a child, family or staff member presents with any COVID-19 symptoms a COVID-19 test is required. Once a negative result is received and well enough to return to the Service, results of the test are to be provided to the Service upon return to care.

When a child is absent or sick on a routine and booked day, per Australian Government regulations and recent COVID-19 directives, standard daily fees apply and are payable in full. Busy Bees will monitor the Victorian Government website for notifications and updates and we shall provide families with additional information should any come to hand.

Absences from Care, please note:

- Whether a child is actually ill or not, including where a child does not attend care as part of the family's own precautionary measure against potential contact with COVID-19, Child Care Subsidy (CCS) can be paid for up to 42 absence days per child, per financial year, without the need for families to provide documentation.
- Once a child's 42 initial absences have been used, CCS can be paid for additional absences including illness. Evidence is required to be kept by the childcare centre for any additional absences claimed, e.g. a doctor's certificate.
- If a child is not ill, and does not attend care (as part of the family's own precautionary measure against potential contact with COVID-19, some medical practitioners may support families by providing a medical certificate allowing them access to additional absences, if required.

The safeguarding of the health and wellbeing of our children, staff, and wider communities is our top priority and we will continue to act in accordance with the latest public health advice from the Victorian Government.

If you have any questions or would like to discuss this further, please contact the Service Manager directly.

We thank you for your cooperation and continued support.

Warm Regards,

Robert Hughes
Chief Executive Office