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17 February 2022

Dear Resident

The NSW Premier today announced an easing of COVID-19 restrictions including changes to masking, density limits and singing and dancing at venues. Details on the Premier's announcement are below.

The [NSW Government's Small Business Support Program](#) is now open for applications and provides payments of up to \$5,000 per week through Service NSW.

There's also the good news that Vivid Sydney will be returning to the CBD from 27 May - 18 June 2022.

We returned to NSW Parliament this week for the first time in 2022. In one of my first speeches, I took the opportunity to celebrate the 2021 school students who received my Vaucluse Citizenship award.



[Click to watch my speech in Parliament](#)

The daily NSW Health update and local COVID figures are included below as well as information on our local COVID-19 testing clinics.

Keep safe.



Thursday, 17 February 2022

NSW GOVERNMENT UPDATE TO COVID-19 SETTINGS

The NSW Government is taking a staged and flexible approach to the easing of restrictions as the State continues to take a measured response to managing COVID-19.

From **the beginning of Friday, 18 February 2022**, the following adjustments will be made to the current settings:

- No density limits (previously one person per 2sqm for hospitality venues);
- QR check-ins will only be required for nightclubs, and for all music festivals with more than 1,000 people. Hospitals, aged and disability facilities may use their existing systems for recording visitors;
- Singing and dancing will be permitted at all venues, except music festivals, where singing and dancing can recommence from 25 February;
- The recommendation to work from home will change and be returned to the employer's discretion.

From the beginning of **Friday, 25 February 2022**, the following adjustments will be made to the settings:

- Masks will only be mandated on public transport, planes, and indoors at airports, hospitals, aged and disability care facilities, corrections facilities and indoor music festivals with more than 1,000 people;
- Masks are encouraged for indoor settings where you cannot maintain a safe distance from others and for customer facing retail staff to protect vulnerable people who must access these premises and services;
- Each State Government agency will review where it may be appropriate for public-facing staff to wear masks and will implement as necessary; and
- The 20,000 person cap on music festivals will be removed, with singing and dancing permitted. Vaccination requirements will remain for indoor music

festivals over 1,000 people, with attendees required to have at least two doses of a COVID-19 vaccine.

Hotel quarantine for unvaccinated returning travellers will be reduced from 14 to 7 days from 21 February.

With hospitalisation and ICU rates easing and booster uptake now above 50 per cent a staged return of non-urgent elective surgery across all NSW public hospitals has commenced and will be increased through February to March.

Premier Dominic Perrottet said the NSW Government is continuing to adopt a flexible and measured approach to protect the community and our health system.

“We don’t want restrictions in place for any longer than necessary and with hospitalisation and ICU rates trending downwards now is the right time to make sensible changes,” Mr Perrottet said.

“As we continue to move forward out of the pandemic we are ensuring that we keep people safe and people in jobs so life can return to normal as quickly and safely as possible.”

“Our frontline health staff have done an incredible job protecting the community and we need everyone to step up and do the right thing and get their booster shots to help keep themselves, their family and the community safe.”

Deputy Premier Paul Toole said the NSW Government has worked hard to strike the right balance between re-opening the State and keeping everyone safe.

“Regional communities have already welcomed back visitors with open arms, and these further freedoms are a big win for everyone who has done the right thing to get us this far,” Mr Toole said.

“This measured response will reinvigorate our regional communities, with country shows, festivals and other major events able to return bigger than ever.’

Minister for Health Brad Hazzard said we needed everyone to play their part as we dealt with the challenges the pandemic would continue to throw at us.

“As we are moving more into the endemic stage of the COVID-19 pandemic, these changes are giving us more of our old life back but it still makes a lot of sense for us all to be cautious,” Mr Hazzard said.

“The best outcome is still to avoid getting the virus by protecting yourself, your family and the broader community.”

People aged 16 years and older can receive their booster dose at three months after receiving their second dose of any of the COVID-19 vaccines. You can book your COVID-19 vaccine or your booster shot, via www.nsw.gov.au/covid-19/vaccination/get-vaccinated.

More information is available at nsw.gov.au.

RED TAPE RELIEF TO SUPPORT BUSINESSES

A number of regulatory changes have been introduced to support businesses hardest hit by the pandemic. The changes include:

- Extension of emergency construction hours until 31 March 2022, allowing construction sites to operate on weekends;
- Changes to planning rules allowing 24-hour deliveries in industrial and business zones;
- The extension, until 30 June 2022, of measures allowing pubs and restaurants to use privately owned open space and car parks for hospitality activities.

For more information visit www.planning.nsw.gov.au

HAVE YOUR SAY ON FASTER PAYMENTS POLICY

Small business owners can have their say on the NSW Government's Faster Payment Terms Policy, which is purposed to make payments to registered small business suppliers within five business days. Have Your Say [here](#).

COVID-19 STATISTICS FOR THE VAUCLUSE ELECTORATE

Source: [NSW Government Website](#) (accessed at 1:10pm 17 February 2022)

State-wide vaccination rates can be viewed [here](#).

Post Code	Suburbs	Active COVID Cases	Vaccination Rate (1st dose/2nd dose) 16y.o+
2030	Watsons Bay, Dover Heights, Vaucluse, Rose Bay North	90	90%+ / 90%+
2029	Rose Bay	75	90%+ / 90%+
2028	Double Bay	12	70-80% / 70-80%
2027	Point Piper, Darling Point, Edgecliff	26	80-90% / 80-90%
2026	Bondi, Bondi Beach, North Bondi	146	80-90% / 80-90%
2025	Woollahra	21	80-90% / 80-90%
2023	Bellevue Hill	60	80-90% / 80-90%
2022	Bondi Junction, Queens Park	56	90%+ / 80-90%



17 February 2022

NSW PUBLIC HEALTH ALERT - COVID-19 STATISTICS

Across NSW, more than 95 per cent of people aged 16 and over have received a first dose of a COVID-19 vaccine, and 94.2 per cent have received two doses to Tuesday 15 February 2022.

- Of children aged 12 to 15, 83.5 per cent have received a first dose of COVID-19 vaccine, and 78.9 per cent have received two doses
- Of children aged 5 to 11, 46 per cent have received a first dose of a COVID-19 vaccine.
- Of people aged 16 plus, 49.7 per cent have now received a third dose of a COVID-19 vaccine. This represents 53.9 per cent of the eligible population that received their second dose more than three months ago.

The total number of vaccines administered in NSW is now 16,529,534, with 4,877,733 doses administered by NSW Health to 8pm last night and 11,651,801 administered by the GP network, pharmacies and other providers to 11:59pm on Tuesday 15 February 2022.

NSW Health encourages everyone who is eligible to receive a vaccination or their booster dose to book into a NSW Health vaccination clinic or another provider without delay through the [COVID-19 vaccine clinic finder](#).

Sadly, NSW Health is reporting the deaths of 14 people with COVID-19; 10 men and four women.

Two people were in their 60s, four people were in their 70s, five people were in their 80s and three people were in their 90s. Older age is a significant risk factor for serious illness and death for COVID-19, particularly when combined with significant underlying health conditions.

Three people had received three doses of a COVID-19 vaccine, six people had received two doses, one person had received one dose, and four people were not vaccinated.

Five people were from south western Sydney, three people were from Sydney's Inner West, one person was from northern Sydney, one person was from south eastern Sydney, one person was from the Central Coast, one person was from the Shellharbour area, one person was from the Wollongong area and one person was from the Albury area.

NSW Health expresses its sincere condolences to their loved ones. This brings the total number of COVID-19 related deaths in NSW since the beginning of the pandemic to 1,786.

There are currently 1,447 COVID-19 cases admitted to hospital, including 92 people in intensive care, 47 of whom require ventilation.

There were 9,995 positive test results (cases) notified in the 24 hours to 4pm yesterday – including 5,747 positive rapid antigen tests (RATS) and 4,248 positive PCR tests. The 4,248 positive PCR results were returned from 44,316 PCR tests

There has now been a total of 339,815 positive RATs recorded since reporting began on 13 January 2022.

Following further investigation, 50 COVID-19 cases detected by PCR tests have been excluded and 698 cases previously reported as RAT-positive have been confirmed as PCR-positive cases, bringing the total number of cases detected by PCR tests in NSW since the beginning of the pandemic to 892,366.

COVID-19 TESTING CLINICS

Here are some COVID-19 testing clinics in the local area:

- **Woollahra 4Cyte Pathology Walk-in Clinic**, 8 Oxford Street, Woollahra (8am-6pm 7 days)
- **Bondi Junction Respiratory Clinic**, 47 Spring Street, Bondi Junction (9am-5pm Mon-Fri, 9am-11:30am)

- **Bondi Junction 4Cyte Pathology Walk-in Clinic**, 50 Bronte Road, Bondi Junction (8am-6pm 7 days)
- **Bondi Junction Laverty Pathology Drive-through and Walk-in Clinic**, Lvl 2 Car park, 34 Waverley Street, Bondi Junction (8am-12pm Mon-Fri)
- **Rose Bay Laverty Pathology Drive-through** , Lyne Park, Vickery Avenue Car Park, Rose Bay (8am-4pm Mon-Fri, 8am-12pm Sat-Sun)
- **Bondi Beach SydPath Drive-through Clinic**, Entry on junction of Campbell Parade and Beach Road (7:30am-5pm 7 days)
- **Prince of Wales Hospital**, Building 14B Avoca Street, Randwick (9am-7pm 7 days)

To view all NSW COVID-19 clinics, please click [here](#).

[Information on COVID-19 Vaccination in NSW](#)

[Information for NSW Businesses and Employees](#)

You can forward this e-newsletter to a friend by [clicking here](#).



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