

# Local Government Victoria Bulletin

## BULLETIN: 23/2022

### COVID-19 Update – Updated Settings From 11.59pm Tuesday 12 April

The [Victorian Government](#) has announced minimal changes to Pandemic Orders, as Victoria continues to monitor and review COVIDSafe settings in line with public health advice.

From 11:59pm Tuesday 12 April 2022 changes to current settings include:

- the removal of vaccination requirements for venues operating as a polling place for the upcoming federal election
- cruise ship protocols to protect Victorians as well as the workers and passengers on the vessels, which are susceptible to large outbreaks with the Commonwealth ban on cruise ships ending this month.

There will be no changes to current isolation rules.

If epidemiological conditions are as forecast, the Victorian Government expects school children will not have to wear face masks when they return for Term 2.

#### **Cruise ships**

Cruise ship protocols will protect Victorians as well as the workers and passengers on the vessels. The protocols include the following measures:

- all passengers over the age of 12 must have received two doses of the COVID-19 vaccine, and all crew must be 'up to date' with three doses (with exceptions for those who aren't yet eligible)
- unvaccinated children under 12 or anyone with a valid medical exemption can travel, but they must not make up more than five per cent of the ship's passengers
- passengers must obtain a negative COVID-19 test before embarking, and if boarding with symptoms they must have another negative PCR test that day
- crew will test every 14 days, or when symptomatic
- all crew must wear masks on board except when in their rooms
- all passengers must wear face masks when embarking and disembarking, and indoors onboard if social distancing is not possible.

Cruise ship operators must undertake public health measures to reduce the risk of transmission, including developing COVIDSafe plans for shore excursions and managing cases and contacts onboard.

Cruise ship protocols will not apply to people arriving on passenger ships that sleep fewer than 100. Entry requirements for fully vaccinated or exempt non-cruise maritime crew will be the same as those for air crew.

COVID-19 settings will be updated when they take effect at [coronavirus.vic.gov.au](https://coronavirus.vic.gov.au).