

COVID-19 is in our community. Please use and dispose of your masks properly.

RATs for Toodyay Households

The Toodyay Community Resource Centre (TCRC) has received a supply of Rapid Antigen Tests (RATs). **5 RATs per household** are now available at the TCRC for those who wish to collect them.

If you return a positive Rapid Antigen Test, you must [register your result](#) with the Department of Health.

Isolating Following a Positive Test

If you test positive for COVID-19 following a Polymerase Chain Reaction (PCR) test, you will receive an SMS from WA Health. There is a link in the SMS to a web page that includes more information and answers many common questions.

The WA Health Department has confirmed you do not need a negative COVID-19 result to leave isolation and return to work **if you have completed 7 days of isolation** since testing positive and **no longer have symptoms**. A person may test positive after 7 days even without symptoms due to shedding the dead virus, but they are unlikely to be contagious at this stage.

People are generally more contagious in the early stages of their infection – according to Harvard Medical School, 1 or 2 days *before* developing symptoms and 2 days *after* developing symptoms. Symptoms often develop in the 3-5 days following exposure.

Vaccinations Are Keeping West Australians Out of Hospital

Recent hospitalisation data shows that the un-boosted population accounts for 61% of COVID-related hospital admissions. The estimated 1% of the population who is unvaccinated accounts for 32% of admissions.

COVID-19 winter vaccine boosters are available on a walk-in basis at state vaccination clinics.

Public Health Measures Are No Longer Mandatory But Recommended

As WA transitions to living with COVID-19, many previously mandated restrictions have been lifted. However, certain measures continue to be highly recommended. These include:

- **Physical distancing**
- **Socially responsible mask-wearing in certain settings**
- **Practicing good hand and general hygiene**
- **Taking a RAT or PCR test if symptoms develop**
- **Avoiding crowds and high-risk settings if you may have been exposed to COVID-19**

Ongoing personal responsibility remains important in effectively managing COVID-19 long-term. Remember that *masks remain mandatory for those aged 12 years and over in aged and disability care facilities, hospitals, taxis and rideshares, public transport, airports and correctional facilities.*

Grants Available for Small Businesses Affected By COVID-19

A new [tiered grant program](#) will be available to businesses that experienced a 30% reduction in turnover during any consecutive two-week period between 1 January 2022 and 30 April 2022.

More information on the grant program can be found [here](#).



COVID-19 Community Update