



COVID-19 Update

26 May 2022

What you need to know this week:

- NSW Health is predicting a more severe flu season this year.
- Flu and COVID-19 vaccinations and boosters are an important way to protect yourself, your loved ones and your community.
- The Public Health Order requiring the vaccination of education and care workers is no longer in force.
- Workers of ECEC services located on school sites (other than Department of Education preschools) are not required to be vaccinated.

Dear services and providers

The flu is already circulating in NSW. After 2 years of physical distancing, NSW Health is predicting a significant number of flu cases and a more severe flu season this year.

This winter, it's important to keep up COVID-safe behaviours to stop the spread of COVID-19 and other respiratory and viral illnesses.

Flu and COVID-19 vaccinations and boosters are an important way to protect yourself, your loved ones and your community.

[NSW Health resources](#) are available to use in your centre, on your social media and through your family apps to share the important messages of being vigilant this winter.

COVID-19 Vaccination requirements for education and care workers

In line with broader community settings, ECEC services have now moved to a risk-based assessment approach for their workforce, meaning that services may choose to implement their own policies around staff vaccination.

NSW Health continues to recommend two doses of the COVID-19 vaccination and a booster shot to reduce the risk of transmission within the community.

COVID-19 Vaccination requirements for ECEC services located on school grounds

The Department of Education continues to require double-vaccination for Department staff working with students on government school sites during school hours through a Workplace Health & Safety policy directive.

The Department's policy directive does not extend to early childhood education and care services located on school sites, other than Department of Education preschools which still require workers to be double-vaccinated.

With the exception of Department of Education preschools, it is now up to each on-site service to decide and implement their own approach to vaccination for staff.

For more information

ECEC staff are encouraged to regularly check the [NSW Health website](#) and [NSW Government website](#) regarding up-to-date restrictions in NSW.

If you have any questions about your service operation you can contact the Information and Enquiries team on 1800 619 113 or by emailing ececd@det.nsw.edu.au.

If you have specific questions about COVID-19, you can also email ECEC.COVIDCASE@det.nsw.edu.au.

For the latest COVID-19 advice please visit the [COVID-19 guidelines for ECEC services](#).



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