

What is meant by a 'contact'

A 'contact' is a person who has been close to someone who has tested positive for COVID-19 anytime from 2 days before the person was symptomatic up to 10 days from onset of symptoms (this is when they are infectious to others).

Close contacts are anyone in contact with a **confirmed case** during the infectious period, in the following circumstances:

Household contact.

Direct contact:

- Face to face contact within one metre for any duration;
- Skin to skin contact;
- Someone the case coughed on;
- Any contact within one metre for more than one minute.

Proximity contact:

- Within one to two metres on one or more occasions during a single day for a total duration of more than 15 minutes; or
- Travelling in a car or other small vehicle or close to the case on a plane.

Where an interaction between 2 people has taken place through a Perspex (or equivalent) screen, this would not be considered sufficient contact, provided that there has been no other contact such as any of those indicated above.

Contacts of a person who has tested positive for COVID-19 do not need to self-isolate at home if they are fully vaccinated, below 18 years and 6 months old, participating in a COVID-19 trial or cannot be vaccinated for medical reasons. However, contacts of a person who has tested positive for COVID-19 without the above **MUST** isolate because they are at risk of developing symptoms themselves in the next 10 days and could spread the virus to others before the symptoms begin.