



THE TORRES STRAIT LOCAL DISASTER MANAGEMENT GROUP



JOINT MEDIA RELEASE – FOR IMMEDIATE ISSUE

13 September 2021

TORRES STRAIT REGION - BOARDING SCHOOL STUDENTS RETURNING FROM THE MAINLAND

Joint statement from Torres Shire Council Mayor Cr. Vonda Malone, and Torres Strait Island Regional Council Mayor Cr. Phillemon Mosby.

The Chief Health Officer has provided an exemption for boarding school students and their accompanying adult who ordinarily reside in Queensland to return to the Torres Strait for the September/October school holidays. The exemption is in place until 10 October 2021.

The following is mandatory for those students and any accompanying adult who are returning from:

- **interstate COVID-19 hotspots** – all of the ACT, all of NSW and all of Victoria; or,
- **exposure sites in Queensland** – Brisbane Local Government Area, and Logan Local Government Area.

Conditions

- Return to the Torres Strait must be by air only.
- All students and accompanying adults returning from interstate must comply with the requirements of their Border Direction Declaration Pass, including 14 days quarantine.

Students and accompanying adults returning from Brisbane through and Logan Local Government Area:

John Paul College, Daisy Hill, Hills International College, Jimbooba, and the Kooralbyn International College, Kooralbyn.

While in the Torres Strait, boarding school students and their accompanying adults must continue to:

- apply all the restrictions in place in the Local Government Area; and,
- wear masks for the same period as applies to the Local Government Area until those restrictions are lifted by the Department

Students and accompanying adults returning from the ACT, NSW and Victoria:

- On return must quarantine for 14 days:
 - o At a private residence, or
 - o In government nominated accommodation.
- Must undertake a COVID-19 test on day 5 and day 12 of the quarantine period.

Media Enquires:

Torres Strait Local Disaster Management Group (TSLDMG):
Phone. 07 4069 1336 Email. admin@torres.qld.gov.au

Conditions applicable to quarantine in a private residence

All who ordinarily reside at the private residence must enter into quarantine for a period of 14 days from the date of arrival of the returning student and the accompanying adult to the private resident.

All in quarantine **must**:

- Remain in place for the duration of the 14 days quarantine.
- Only leave the private residence for the purpose of obtaining medical care at a hospital; or, to undertake a COVID-19 test.
- Undertake a COVID-19 test if they have any symptoms regardless how mild.
- The accompanying adult is required to maintain contact records for any essential worker who enters the property during the quarantine period. The record must include the date, time and location, the name, phone number and email address of the essential worker who entered the property.

Compliance

The Queensland Police Service and/or the local Public Health Unit will conduct random compliance and welfare checks on private residents the subject of the quarantine restrictions.

Breaches of the quarantine requirements may result a fine and a direction that the quarantine be completed at government-nominated accommodation **at the accompanying adult's expense**.

Conditions for quarantine in government-nominated accommodation from a COVID-19 hotspot

Returning students under the age of 18 quarantining in government-nominated accommodation must:

- be accompanied by an adult;
- meet the costs of the accommodation; and,
- must comply with *Border Restrictions Direction (No. 40)*.

Face masks

All students, accompanying adults and those quarantining in private residences must carry a face mask, and wear the face mask:

- during transit; and,
- when leaving the private residence for permitted purposes;

It is important to [get tested](#) if you have even the mildest symptoms.

*Further information on LDMG activation statuses is available on both the [Torres Shire Council](#) and [Torres Strait Island Regional Council](#) websites.