

Although COVID-19 has become prevalent in the community, GOLD is committed to ensuring its impact is minimised within our school and hosting communities.

The GOLD COVID-19 Action Plan is designed to provide clarity to host families about what to do if your Japanese student or a member of your family shows COVID-19 symptoms or tests positive for COVID-19. This Action Plan follows the current [WA Health guidelines](#) last updated on 1 June, 2023.

What are the COVID-19 symptoms?

- **Fever ($\geq 37.50C$) OR recent history of fever (e.g. night sweats, chills), without a known source**
- **Acute respiratory symptoms (shortness of breath, persistent cough and sore throat)**
- **Acute loss of smell or taste**

What if your student gets COVID-19

If your Japanese student exhibits COVID-19 symptoms we encourage you to administer a Rapid Antigen Test (RAT). If the test is positive please inform the GOLD team so we can provide immediate support. As recommended by WA Health, anyone who tests positive for COVID-19 should isolate from the broader community until their symptoms subside.

Isolate at home

As a teenager far from home, testing positive for COVID-19 can be an upsetting experience. If your family is comfortable allowing the student to remain in your home until they become symptom free, GOLD will support you every step of the way. We'll provide the student with a set of guidelines to minimize their interactions in your home and recommend:

- They isolate in a room of the house not occupied by a member of your family and to eat their meals in there.
- To leave their room only when using the bathroom or kitchen and when other members of your home are not present and to wear a mask when doing so at all times.
- To use hand sanitizer and wipe down surfaces they touch outside their room.

If a member of your family is not present during the day, our staff will check in on them physically or by phone on a regular basis. The students will also remain in direct contact with the teachers should they need urgent assistance.

Isolate in a hotel

If it's not suitable to stay in your home, your student will be moved to a hotel until they become symptom free. Once the student has recovered, they can continue their homestay or remain in the hotel depending on the preference of your family.

The symptom free timeline

There are currently no mandates in place enforcing isolation, but WA Health currently suggests anyone who tests positive for COVID-19 to stay home until their symptoms subside. Our guidelines recommend:

1. If a student tests positive for COVID-19 they should immediately isolate.
2. If a student is symptom free and they return a negative RAT result they can end their isolation and rejoin their student group – so feel free to test them everyday.
3. If the student is symptom free but still has a positive result they can only end their isolation and rejoin their student group on day 5 from their initial test i.e. if they test positive on a Monday (day 1) they can end their isolation on Friday (day 5), however they must continue to wear a mask until they receive a negative RAT result.
4. If their health deteriorates, GOLD will organize a telehealth consultation to assess whether further medical attention is required.

Thank you for hosting with us and remember we are here to help! If you have any questions about this COVID-19 Action Plan or need any assistance from the GOLD team, please contact our 24/7 support line on 0482076423.