Brisbane Youth Detention Centre - Information for parents and carers about novel coronavirus

We are working closely with Queensland Health to limit the effect of novel coronavirus (COVID-19) on youth detention centres. Our priority is the safety and wellbeing of young people, staff and the community. Our aim is to minimise any negative impacts on them during this time.

Visiting Brisbane Youth Detention Centre

A new public health alert has been issued for South East Queensland. There is increased risk for community transmission of COVID-19 especially in the health zone that the centre is in. Because of this we have temporarily suspended face-to-face family and personal visits at Brisbane Youth Detention Centre.

We will continue to follow health advice and restart these visits when it is safe.

It is important that young people continue to connect with their families and friends. Staff will work with you to facilitate video link and phone contacts with young people.

Professional visits will continue with strict screening, this includes:

- legal visitors
- service providers
- other professional visitors.

Everyone who comes to a youth detention centre must have a health screen, including a temperature check, before they enter. This includes:

- staff
- professional visitors
- other essential workers.

People will not be allowed to enter a youth detention centre if they have:

- returned/arrived from overseas in the past 14 days
- been to any of the declared COVID-19 hotspots in the past 14 days
- had contact with a confirmed case of COVID-19 in the past 14 days
- a fever or symptoms of acute respiratory infection (e.g. cough, sore throat, runny nose or shortness of breath)
- a temperature of over 37.5 degrees (checked before entry).

Safety measures are in place to keep everyone safe.

Health services for your child

All young people have access to health services while they are at a youth detention centre. Young people can talk to nurses and doctors at the centre if they have concerns about their health.

How COVID-19 will affect young people in youth detention centres

We will focus on helping young people and staff maintain the best possible hygiene standards. Our youth detention centres have put extra cleaning and disinfecting procedures in place.
We aim to identify the least restrictive alternatives, such as programs in young people’s accommodation units, and making sure we have reserve staff for the centre.

**If a case is confirmed in the youth detention centre**

We are considering all available options to ensure the best possible outcome for young people and staff if COVID-19 becomes more widespread. If there is a case of COVID-19, our response will be scaled to match the spread of the virus. Our response will be based on Queensland Health advice.

Please contact Brisbane Youth Detention Centre if you need more information.