

Schools are working with students and families to ensure educational, wellbeing and engagement supports are in place, so that students are connected with learning and engaged in a positive transition into 2022.

### Working with your child's school

To make sure there is a current plan for understanding and meeting your child's needs:

- Participate in a [Student Support Group \(SSG\)](#) meeting.
- Talk to your child's teacher about updating their [individual education plan](#) to guide their learning.
- Share current information about your child's needs (such as assessments and medical reports).

### Students with complex health needs

If your child has complex health needs:

- Seek advice from their medical practitioner to support decision-making about attending school on-site at different stages of the COVID-19 pandemic.
- Work with your child's school to make sure their [Student Health Support Plan](#) is up to date.

### Health and safety actions

Schools are taking actions to reduce the risk of COVID-19 transmission with the school environment, see: [Health and safety advice for all Victorian schools](#).

### Vaccinations for students

Children aged 12 and over can get a COVID-19 vaccine.

People with a disability may visit any [Victorian vaccination centre](#) to get vaccinated, without needing to book an appointment.

Nine Victorian [vaccination centres](#) have enhanced accessibility, including on-site hearing augmentation devices and communication tools.

Disability Liaison Officers (DLOs) help people with a disability access health services, including vaccinations.

The DLOs can help people with disability to:

- book a COVID-19 vaccination.
- get a vaccination if they're not able to attend a vaccination centre.

For information and resources, including contact details for DLOs, see [vaccine information for people with a disability](#).

### National Disability Insurance Scheme (NDIS)

If your child is an NDIS participant, [Latest advice NDIS](#) contains information for NDIS participants including what support is available.

For more information you can contact your child's NDIS [Local Area Coordinator](#) or the NDIS on 1800 800 110.

If your child is not an NDIS participant you can test their eligibility by contacting [Local Area Coordinator](#), the NDIS on 1800 800 110 or visit: [Am I eligible](#).

### School transitions

Schools continue to provide learning and education experiences to meet students' needs. This is a focus as children and young people participate in school transitions into next year.

- Some parents and carers may be worried that their child may have to repeat a year due to the disruptions of COVID-19. There is little evidence to support the benefits of repeating a year. Instead, schools will use teaching strategies that draw on the best evidence available to help students meet their learning needs and support them to **move through year levels** with their peers.
- All children **starting Prep in 2022** will be supported to continue their learning as they transition to school.
- Year 6 students will be supported to finish this school year strong, with the confidence to move to **secondary schooling in 2022**.
- Students in their **final year of school** will be supported by their school to transition to employment or other options in 2022.

## Talking to your child about COVID-19

[Advice](#) on having a safe and reassuring conversation about COVID-19, available in a range of community languages.

## Tips to support your child's health and wellbeing

Advice, tips and resources available for parents and carers to support their child's mental and physical health and wellbeing. It covers a range of topics including:

- [Managing screen time and online safety](#)
- [Looking after your child's wellbeing](#)
- [Looking after your child's mental health](#)
- [Physical activity and healthy eating](#)
- [Taking care of yourself](#)
- [Wellbeing for parents of primary school students](#)
- [Wellbeing for parents of secondary students](#)

## Other supports

The [Association for Children with a Disability](#) and [Amaze](#) are providing information and support for families during coronavirus (COVID-19).

[AllPlay Learn](#) helps to create inclusive education environments through practical online information, courses and resources for teachers, as well as resources for parents, children and the community.