

QDU SCHOOL COVID-19 POLICY

1. Spectators

Until seating density requirements are reviewed by Queensland health, each team will be permitted to bring a maximum of 5 spectators to view any preliminary round debate. If you anticipate that a larger number of spectators will attend a debate, please get in touch and we will attempt to facilitate access to a larger room.

2. Masks

The QDU will continue to enforce mask mandates in-line with current legislative requirements. Given Queensland Schools remain a “high risk setting” for the purposes of section 362B of the *Public Health Act 2005* (Qld), it is recommended you continue to wear your mask. Masks are required when you are unable to socially distance.

3. Environment control

Where possible, strive to provide create physical distance between yourself and others. This means that you should leave at least one seat between yourself and anyone else and encourage spectators to sit in separate family groups. Please discourage students from shaking hands after the debate and instead encourage them to congratulate their opposition without physical contact. If practical, ensure that the windows in your debate room are open to ensure adequate ventilation.

4. Isolation

You are not permitted to attend debates if any of the following apply:

- (a) You have tested positive for Covid-19 within the past 7 days;
- (b) You are unwell and exhibiting Covid-19 symptoms;
- (c) You are currently awaiting test results for a non-routine Covid-19 test (e.g. you got tested because you were unwell, not because your workplace requires regular testing);
- (d) You have been identified as a close contact and you had contact with the Covid-19 positive person within the past 7 days; or
- (e) You have had significant exposure to a Covid-19 positive person within the past 7 days (even if you are not designated as a close contact, you are not permitted to attend debates for at least a 7 day period).

Any school that notifies the Executive before 10am the day of a debate that a team is unable to attend for one of the reasons outlined in (a) – (e) above will be awarded a postponement where possible as per QDU Competition Rule 8, rather than a forfeit.

5. Communication

Effective communication will be essential to ensuring that you have a positive experience participating in the QDU in 2022 and that our competitions are a success. Should this policy change, you will be notified through emails, our website and social media channels. Through prompt and ongoing communication between coordinators and Tony, we will be able to overcome the evolving challenges associated with Covid-19 as we did with the help of adjudicators in 2020 and 2021.