



COVID-19 and Kids

Our understanding of COVID-19 and children continues to emerge.
This is what we know.

CO = corona
VI = virus
D = disease
19 = 2019

**Children can
 get and
 spread
 COVID-19**

COVID-19 rarely causes severe illness in children and very rarely causes death

Children who have COVID-19 usually have mild symptoms, similar to a cold. Some have no symptoms

Common symptoms include tiredness, a headache, cough, fever or sore throat

**Children
 who have
 symptoms
 should be
 tested for
 COVID-19**

People may become infected by touching surfaces contaminated with the virus then touching their eyes, nose or mouth

**The virus is
 spread through
 the air in tiny
 droplets**
 from an infected person's nose or mouth when they cough, sneeze, speak or breathe

**The COVID-19
 Delta variant**
 spreads more quickly than previous variants

**Children -
 like adults - can
 protect
 themselves**
 and others from the virus by washing their hands, covering their mouth/nose when coughing and staying home if unwell

**Masks are
 effective
 at reducing
 the spread of COVID-19**

**Free
 and safe**
 vaccines are available in Australia for everyone aged 12 years and over

Vaccinations are not yet approved for children under 12 years. Clinical trials are underway.

**The social isolation,
 lockdowns, school
 closures, and family
 financial hardship
 associated with the
 pandemic affects
 children's health
 and wellbeing**

**Children
 experiencing
 disadvantage or
 who have
 pre-existing health
 conditions**
 are at greater risk of severe disease

References:

- MCRI Frequently asked COVID-19 questions
- MCRI Research Briefs: COVID-19 vaccination/Child and Adolescent Health
- Coronavirus (COVID-19) Victoria. Vaccine information for children and teenagers
- Coronavirus (COVID-19) Vic Dept of Health and Human Services
- Australian Technical Advisory Group on Immunisation (ATAGI)
- WHO Coronavirus disease (COVID-19) pandemic