

**What if an employee cannot attend work because their child's school has closed due to concerns about coronavirus?**

**Employees who cannot come to work because they need to care for a child whose school has closed will ordinarily need to use paid leave entitlements to be paid for their absence.**

**Paid carer's leave is available to full-time or part-time employees** where the employee needs to look after a family member or a member of their household who requires care or support because of a personal illness or unexpected emergency affecting the member.

**A school closing on short notice and for a short period due to concerns about coronavirus (for example, because someone at the school has tested positive) is an unexpected emergency for this purpose.**

Casual employees are entitled to 2 days of unpaid carer's leave per occasion. Full-time and part-time employees can take unpaid carer's leave if they have no paid sick or carer's leave left.

**An employee must give their employer reasonable evidence of the unexpected emergency if their employer asks for it. This will also apply to situations relating to coronavirus.**

Other arrangements that may be available include:

- working from home (if this is a practical option and consistent with any applicable award, enterprise agreement, employment contract or workplace policy) or other flexible working arrangements
- taking annual leave
- taking any other leave (such as long service leave or any other leave available under an award, enterprise agreement or employment contract)
- taking any other paid or unpaid leave by agreement between the employee and the employer.