

QUT Professional Experience Semester 2 COVID-19 Response Plan (Final PEx)

Considering the ongoing COVID-19 pandemic in Australia, the Faculty of Education has established the following protocols to respond to:

1. QLD or local Government declared hotspots
2. Pre-service teachers required to self-isolate or contract the virus
3. Pre-service teachers undergoing COVID-19 testing

This plan has been developed with the health and safety of the entire QUT community in mind while ensuring that students have the best chance at success in Professional Experience units and those scheduled to complete their degrees in 2020 have the opportunity to graduate. *Please note, the scenarios below do not include students who choose to withdraw from a PEx unit/placement.* Should anyone wish to withdraw because they feel uncomfortable or unsafe or any other undocumented COVID-19 related reason, we will ensure they are placed in 2021 (or in their next enrolment of their PEx unit).

1. GOVERNMENT DECLARED HOTSPOTS

If a QUT pre-service teacher is placed at a site when the [government declares a hotspot](#) and a school closes to pre-service teachers, the placement will cease immediately without exception. At that time, the pre-service teachers will be directed to complete an alternative portfolio assessment*, which, if completed to the graduate standard, will allow them to pass EUB444-2/EUN231-2. Due dates for the alternative assessment will continue to be the final day of the placement (November 16th). Should a placement be stopped within the final 5 days of the PEx block (November 9-15), pre-service teachers can apply for an assignment extension of 5 business days to submit their alternative assessment no later than November 23rd to ensure grade publication and inclusion in graduation ceremonies.

In the event the government places **movement restrictions** on specific areas the placement will cease immediately without exception for pre-service teachers residing in or placed at sites located in restricted areas. For example, the school a pre-service teacher is placed at is in a suburb that where travel in and out is not advised, but the pre-service teacher's suburb is not affected.

Pre-service teachers will be directed to complete an alternative portfolio assessment*, which, if completed to the graduate standard, will allow them to pass EUB444-2/EUN231-2. Due dates for the alternative assessment will continue to be the final day of the placement (November 16th). Should a placement be stopped within the final 5 days of the PEx block (November 9-15), pre-service teachers can apply for an assignment extension of 5 business days to submit their alternative assessment no later than November 23rd to ensure grade publication and inclusion in graduation ceremonies.

If a QUT pre-service teacher currently resides in a government declared hotspot outside of QLD where a school closes to pre-service teachers, they will complete an alternative portfolio assessment*, which, if completed to the graduate standard, will allow students to pass EUB444-2/EUN231-2.

**Details of the PEx Portfolio Assessment will be provided by the Unit Coordinator at the time the placement is stopped via the EUB444-2 and EUN231-2 blackboard site.*

2. PRE-SERVICE TEACHERS SELF-ISOLATING, OR CONTRACTING THE VIRUS

If at any time during the placement for EUB444-2 or EUN231-2, a QUT pre-service teacher is required/mandated to undertake a period of quarantine, self-isolation or tests positive for COVID-19, the placement will cease immediately. At that time, the pre-service teacher will be directed to complete an alternative portfolio assessment*, which, if completed to the graduate standard, will allow them to pass EUB444-2/EUN231-2. Due dates for the alternative assessment will continue to be the final day of the placement (November 16th). Should a placement be stopped within the final 5 days of the PEx block (November 9-15), pre-service teachers can apply for an assignment extension of 5 business days to submit their alternative assessment no later than November 23rd to ensure grade publication and inclusion in graduation ceremonies).

Pre-service teachers must provide documentation in order to be provided the alternative assessment option. This documentation may include a medical certificate stating a positive COVID-19 diagnosis, a copy of a test result from a doctor, or a letter from the State Government ordering the student into quarantine or self-isolation.

**Details of the PEx Portfolio Assessment will be provided by the Unit Coordinator at the time the placement is stopped via the EUB444-2 and EUN231-2 blackboard site.*

3. PRE-SERVICE TEACHER UNDERGOES COVID-19 TESTING

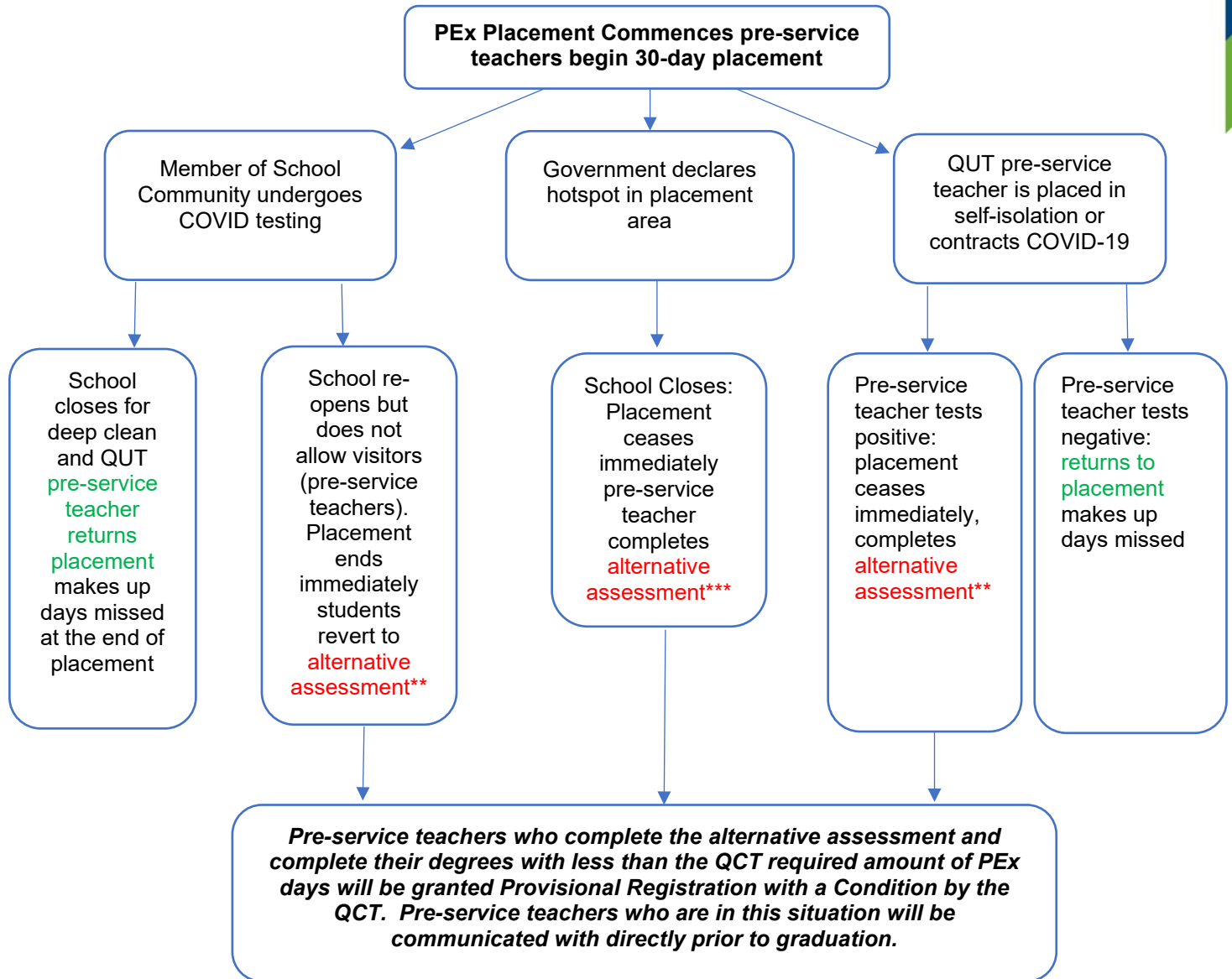
If a QUT pre-service teacher feels unwell and meets the Government criteria for testing, they must not attend their placement and undergo a COVID-19 test as per government regulations. In the event this occurs, pre-service teachers must inform both the placement site and QUT PEO. The pre-service teacher must isolate as per guidelines and wait until the test results are returned. All days missed count as absent/sick days. If results take longer than 5 days or should the number of days absent from placement be more than 5 days (due to documented COVID-19 reasons), QUT will work with students on a case by case basis to ensure the placement can be completed within the school term time constraints or an alternative portfolio assessment* may be required. Please note completing an alternative assessment **might** lead to the completion of the student's degree after the graduation and conferral date**.

**Details of the PEx Portfolio Assessment will be provided by the Unit Coordinator at the time the placement is stopped via the EUB444-2 and EUN231-2 blackboard site.*

*** In this case, students will be course complete in December 2020 but will not officially graduate until the next graduation ceremony in March. Students in this situation will be able to register with the QCT for the beginning of the 2021 school year as normal with a letter of completion supplied by QUT.*

Any pre-service teacher who completes the alternative assessment and completes their degree with less than the QCT required amount of PEx days will be granted Provisional Registration with a Condition by the QCT. Students who are in this situation will be communicated with directly prior to graduation by members of the QUT Faculty of Education's Student Support Team.

Process:



** QUT pre-service teacher must provide documentation supporting the stoppage of placement. In the event a school will not allow pre-service teachers/visitors, forwarded to the PEO (peo@qut.edu.au) will be sufficient. For pre-service teachers undergoing COVID-19 testing, a copy of the test outcome or medical certificate from a GP is acceptable. If pre-service teachers have been ordered into isolation, a copy of the order or statutory declaration must be provided.

*** In the event a [Hotspot is declared in the region](#) your placement is to occur, pre-service teachers must notify the PEO (peo@qut.edu.au).

QUT Professional Experience Semester 2 COVID-19 Response Plan for EUN130, EUB140 or EUB241

Considering the ongoing COVID-19 pandemic in Australia, the Faculty of Education has established the following protocols to respond to:

1. QLD or local Government declared hotspots, movement restrictions, pre-service teachers required to self-isolate or contract COVID-19
2. Pre-service teachers undergoing COVID-19 testing

This plan has been developed with the health and safety of the entire QUT community in mind while ensuring that students have the best chance at success in Professional Experience Units and that students have minimal disruption to their study plans. Please note, the scenarios below do not include students who choose to withdraw from a PEx unit/placement. Should anyone wish to withdraw because they feel uncomfortable or unsafe or any other undocumented COVID-19 reasons, QUT will ensure they are placed in 2021 (or in their next enrolment of their PEx unit), however, if this occurs, QUT cannot guarantee that current course progression and planned completion dates will be met.

1. GOVERNMENT DECLARED HOTSPOTS, MOVEMENT RESTRICTIONS SELF-ISOLATION OR CONTRACTING COVID-19

Students in Early Childhood degrees in EUB140 and EUB241

If a QUT pre-service teacher is ordered to undertake self-isolation, contracts COVID-19, resides in or placed at a site that the government declares a movement restricted area or is placed at a site where the government has [declared a hotspot](#) and/or closes to pre-service teachers, the placement will cease immediately without exception. Students who have completed more than 60% (EUB140 9 days and EUB241 6 days) of the scheduled professional experience is interrupted the remaining days will be completed at the site once determined it is safe. Students who have not completed at least 60% of their PEx will restart their placement from day 1 in order to ensure the integrity of the placement is not compromised. This will allow supervisors the opportunity to fairly assess student progress and provide the best chance at passing the short experience. IF POSSIBLE, the QUT PEO will work to restart placements in the

period from November 1–12 for 10 days regardless of the original placement days (both in kindergarten and Birth to 2 years-old settings).

Students in EU30 (MTeach) Early Childhood

If a QUT pre-service teacher is ordered to undertake self-isolation, contracts COVID-19, resides in or placed at a site that the government declares a movement restricted area or is placed at a site where the government has declared a hotspot and/or closes to pre-service teachers, placement will cease immediately without exception. IF POSSIBLE, the QUT PEO will work to restart placements in the additional placement block from November 1st*.

As the EU30 (EUN130) placement is divided into two separate experiences (10 days in B-2 and 15 days in kindergarten), if a COVID-19 related disruption (outlined above) impacts one experience only (i.e. the 15-day kindergarten experience), pre-service teachers will only need to modify the experience that has been impacted. For example, if the kindergarten days are impacted, but the Birth-2 placement runs as normal, students will make up 15 days in kindergarten only.

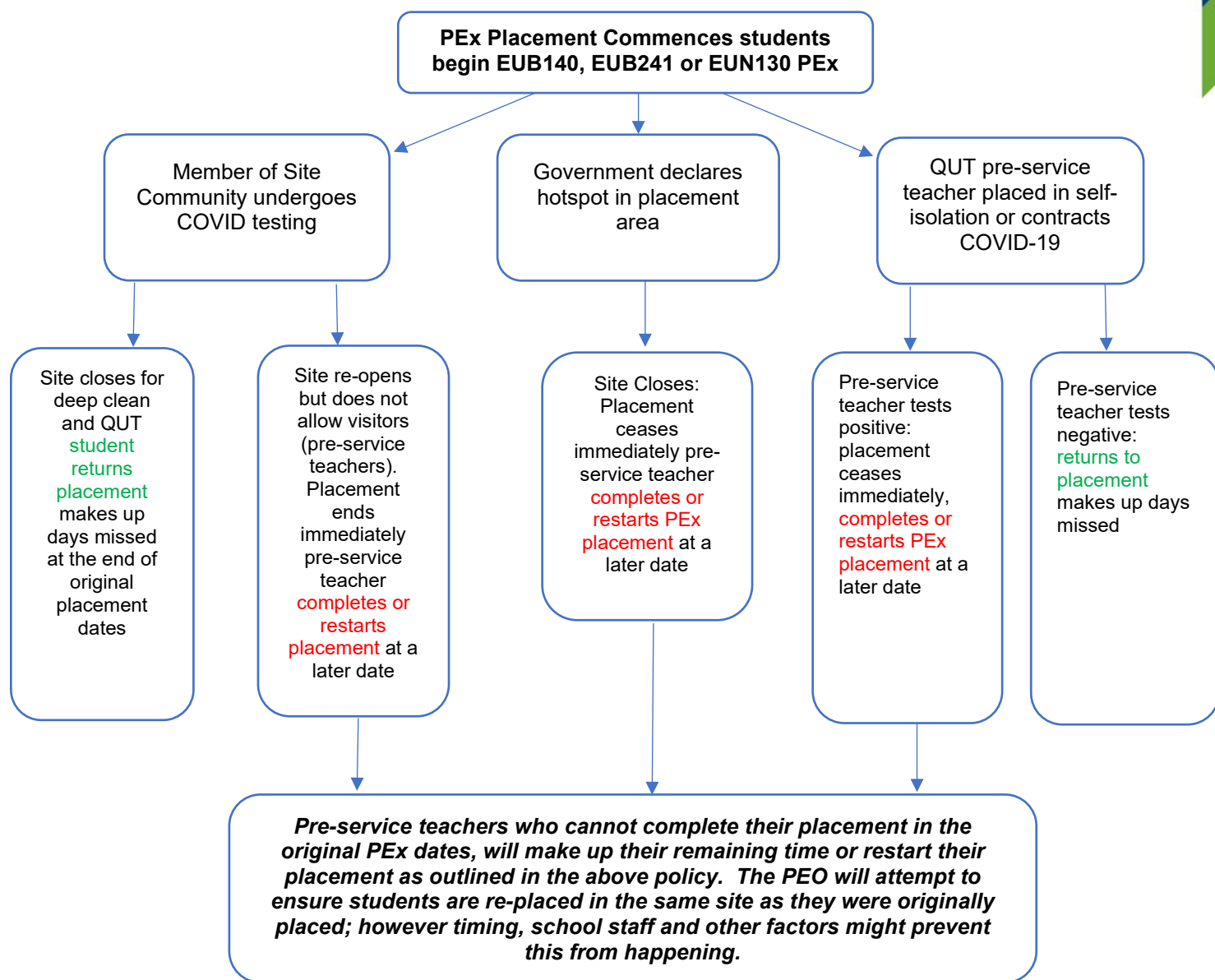
*The PEO will attempt to re-place students in the site that they were originally placed in; however, if this cannot happen, students might be placed in a different daycare or kindergarten.

EUN130 School Placements (EU40 and EU50)

If a student is placed in self-isolation, contracts COVID-19, resides in or placed at a site that the government declares a movement restricted area or, if a QUT pre-service teacher is placed at a site when the [government declares a hotspot](#) and a site closes to pre-service teachers, the placement will cease immediately without exception.

Due to the timing of this placement (in school term 4), the PEO will attempt to restart the placement should it be possible between from November 2 and November 9. If the placement cannot be restarted by November 9, students will receive an 'AT' grade (meaning the assessment has been held over), for EUN130 and remain in the unit. Students will be placed in the SUMMER 2 placement block from February 8 – February 26, 2021, allowing course progression to remain on track for 2021 completion (for full-time students). Students unable to be placed in Summer 2, will not be able to graduate in 2021. Those students must withdraw from EUN130 (2020) and can take EUN130 (not just the placement) in semester 2, 2021 (the next available placement).

Process:



** QUT pre-service teacher must provide documentation supporting the stoppage of placement. In the event a school will not allow visitors, an email from the site coordinator forwarded to the PEO (peo@qut.edu.au) will be sufficient. For pre-service teachers undergoing COVID-19 testing, a copy of the test outcome or medical certificate from a GP is acceptable. If pre-service teachers have been ordered into isolation, a copy of the order or statutory declaration must be provided.

*** In the event a [Hotspot is declared in the region](#) a placement is to occur, pre-service teachers must notify the PEO (peo@qut.edu.au).