



## **Infection Control Statement Update**

The managing committee for Baby Wearers Western Australia Incorporated (BWVA) would like to take this opportunity to address our valued community regarding the current Coronavirus COVID-19 pandemic. BWVA is committed to actively monitoring the evolution of COVID-19 and responding to guidelines provided by the Australian Department of Health and World Health Organisation.

Infection control is the prevention of transmitting microorganisms between hosts, specifically person to person. Infection control at BWVA meets and through the loaning of baby carriers is, and always will be of utmost importance to BWVA practice.

Please note these guidelines are not specific to the current outbreak, rather they are based on best practice for good community health.

### **BASICS**

As per the World Health Organisation guidelines, standard steps remain the same to protect yourself and those around you from infection:

- Regularly and thoroughly wash your hands with alcohol-based hand rub, or soap and water.
- Avoid touching your eyes, nose or mouth to avoid transferring virus from surfaces into your body.
- Maintain a distance of at least 1m from people who are coughing or sneezing.
- Always cough or sneeze into your bent elbow or use a tissue which you should dispose of immediately.
- If you are unwell with coughs or fevers, stay away from others and seek medical advice.

### **MEETS**

Babywearing meets are a gathering place for families with children. The youngest children are often at the greatest risk of serious consequences from contagious diseases.

To protect yourself and others in our organisation we ask you not to attend babywearing meets if you or your child are unwell; including (but not restricted to) coughs and colds, fevers, vomiting or diarrhoea. While we understand the appeal of babywearing to soothe a sick child, it is not fair to the others at the meet, including the volunteer meet leaders and their families.



Changes to scheduled meets are inevitable. These may come about at short notice and we apologise for the inconvenience. We ask that you follow all relevant Facebook events and the website for any updates.

### **CARRIERS**

Research varies widely on the time that COVID-19 can remain alive on cloth or hard surfaces such as buckles, but indicates it could be merely hours, up to several days. Many other viruses and bacteria can also persist.

If a BWWA member has a loan carrier and **during the loan period;**

- someone in the household is unwell and/or
- has returned from overseas and/or
- someone in the household has been at the location of a confirmed Covid-19 case

We ask that you cease using the carrier and contact us immediately:

email [info@babywearerswa.com.au](mailto:info@babywearerswa.com.au)

or Facebook message [www.facebook.com/babywearersWA](https://www.facebook.com/babywearersWA)).

A possibly infected carrier should be laundered strictly according to the instructions issued by BWWA website

<https://www.babywearerswa.com.au/blog>

Washing instructions specific to your loaned carrier can be also be obtained by emailing [info@babywearerswa.com.au](mailto:info@babywearerswa.com.au)

Alternatively, return the carrier in a sealed bag to the meet leader (in person or via BWWA courier) at least two days before the meet to allow for cleaning and drying.

If any of the above occurs **on the day before or day of the meet** please notify the meet leaders immediately (this can be done by emailing [info@babywearerswa.com.au](mailto:info@babywearerswa.com.au) or sending a Facebook message to [www.facebook.com/babywearersWA](https://www.facebook.com/babywearersWA)). Please do not attend the meet but await reply communication from BWWA management.

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**BabyWearers**  
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