



Media Statement | 22 July 2020

**Holy Duck! COVID-19 case downgraded to “casual contact”
Patrons no longer need to self-isolate or seek testing**

Management of Holy Duck! restaurant in Chippendale, are pleased to announce the official downgrading of risk to patrons and staff of the popular venue, who were dining at the restaurant on Friday 10 July 2020 between 7:15pm and 9:00pm.

NSW Health officially informed Holy Duck! management on Tuesday 21 July 2020, that although Holy Duck! patrons and staff were initially considered “close contacts” of a member of the public who later tested positive for COVID-19 and did not contract the virus at Holy Duck!, the restaurant was subsequently reviewed on Sunday 19 July 2020, and the case was downgraded to “casual contact” only.

The Communicable Diseases Team from NSW Health notified Holy Duck! management that *“from a public health perspective, the risk of COVID-19 infection to staff, patrons and other attendees at Holy Duck! is no different to the background risk in the greater Sydney area”*. There is no need for any guests or patrons to self-isolate or get tested in relation to visiting Holy Duck!.

The full communication was as follows:

“On Friday 10 July, a person who was later diagnosed with COVID-19 dined at Holy Duck! Restaurant in Chippendale, Sydney between 7.15pm and 9.30pm. NSW Health determined that the person was likely to have been infectious while at the restaurant and informed management of the situation on 18 July. The restaurant promptly acted to send staff home, and management reported that the restaurant had undergone a deep clean.

Staff and patrons who were at the restaurant between 7.15pm and 9pm on 10 July were initially considered to be close contacts, however, on review, they have been reclassified as casual contacts. Casual contacts can continue to work and move about in the community, but must self-monitor for symptoms and have a very low threshold for being tested.

From a public health perspective, the risk of COVID-19 infection to staff, patrons and other attendees at Holy Duck! is no different to the background risk in the greater Sydney area.

There are no restrictions on Holy Duck!’s return to trade, provided the restaurant continues to adhere to the NSW Government requirements for COVID Safe restaurants, cafes and food courts.”

Management of the Holy Duck! premises immediately undertook a deep clean of the premises, and all staff have been tested for and cleared of COVID-19 infection.

Management of the restaurant, and entire Kensington Street precinct, take the safety of their patrons and staff seriously, and continue to implement their COVID-19 safe practises, which includes recording of all guests and staff, social distancing, self-monitoring and continued cleaning of the premises.

Holy Duck! is again open and looks forward to welcoming back its loyal patrons.

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