

> HELPING BUSINESS GET BACK TO WORK



23 July 2020

COVID-19 Safety Plan

Effective 10 December 2020

Places of worship

We've developed this COVID-19 Safety Plan to help you create and maintain a safe environment for you, your workers and your congregants.

Complete this plan in consultation with your workers, then share it with them. This will help slow the spread of COVID-19 and reassure your congregants that they can safely visit your business. You may need to update the plan in the future, as restrictions and advice changes – you can make changes to the plan if you've printed or saved it, or you can choose to download and create a new version of the plan.

Businesses must follow the current COVID-19 Public Health Orders, and also manage risks to staff and other people in accordance with Work Health and Safety laws. For more information and specific advice for your industry go to nsw.gov.au

BUSINESS DETAILS
Business name:
Plan completed by:
Approved by:

> REQUIREMENTS FOR BUSINESS

Requirements for your workplace and the actions you will put in place to keep your congregants and workers safe

REQUIREMENTS	ACTIONS
Wellbeing of staff and congregants	
Exclude staff and congregants who are unwell from the premises.	
Provide staff with information and training on COVID-19, including when to get tested, physical distancing and cleaning.	
Make staff aware of their leave entitlements if they are sick or required to self-isolate.	
Display conditions of entry (website, social media, venue entry).	

Wellbeing of staff and congregants

Consider offering online services or alternative arrangements for people in high-risk categories (e.g. over 70 years).

Ensure COVID-19 Safety Plans are in place, where relevant, for:

- Community centres and halls (if hiring out premises)
- Restaurants and cafes.
- Weddings
- Funerals

REQUIREMENTS

ACTIONS

Physical distancing

Capacity must not exceed 300 people, or one visitor per 4 square metres of space (excluding staff), whichever is the lesser.

Group singing and chanting remains a high-risk activity for transmission should someone involved be infected. Up to 50 people may sing together in one area if all singers face forwards and not towards each other have physical distancing of 1.5 metres between each other and any other performers, and 5 metres distancing from all other people in front including the audience and conductor. NSW Health strongly recommends that audience members and congregants older than 12 years old wear face masks if singing or chanting. Wedding services can have a maximum capacity of 150 people, and funeral services can have a maximum capacity of 100 people. See the NSW Government website for wedding and funeral service COVID-19 Safety Plans.

Move or remove tables and seating as required, where possible. Household or other close contacts do not need to physically distance.

Reduce crowding wherever possible and promote physical distancing.

Where reasonably practical, ensure staff maintain 1.5 metres physical distancing at all times, including at meal breaks and in offices or meeting rooms.

Use telephone or video for essential meetings where practical.

Review regular deliveries and request contactless delivery and invoicing where practical.

Have strategies in place to manage gatherings that may occur immediately outside the premises, such as at the conclusion of services. This may involve suspending or adjusting the practice of greeting congregants as they arrive or depart to ensure appropriate physical distancing.

Physical distancing
Coordinate with public transport, where reasonably practical, around strategies to minimise COVID-19 risks associated with transportation to and from the venue if crowding on public transport may occur.
Take measures to ensure drivers of courtesy vehicles minimise close contact with passengers where possible.
Solo singing and wind instruments can spread COVID-19 if a participant is infected. Additional planning around these activities should be undertaken from a work health and safety perspective, including ensuring 5 metres distance from the audience.
Education programs should be conducted in accordance with the NSW Government guidelines on Schools and Childcare. Students do not need to follow strict adult physical distancing guidelines but should follow good hygiene practices. Staff should continue to maintain 1.5m physical distancing from students where practical.

REQUIREMENTS	ACTIONS
Hygiene and cleaning	
Adopt good hand hygiene practices.	
Ensure bathrooms are well stocked with hand soap and paper towels or hand dryers.	
Consider modifying religious rites or rituals to avoid direct contact where practical, such as communion or other similar practices. Where this is not practical, ensure hands are washed before and after each interaction with soap and water or hand sanitiser.	
Avoid sharing books, drinking cups or other shared objects used during the service such as collection plates. Also consider putting barriers around frequently touched objects of worship, such as shrines, relics or fonts, to prevent people frequently touching these.	
Clean frequently used indoor hard surface areas (including children's play areas) at least daily with detergent/disinfectant. Clean frequently touched areas and surfaces several times per day.	
Disinfectant solutions need to be maintained at an appropriate strength and used in accordance with the manufacturers' instructions.	
Staff are to wear gloves when cleaning and wash hands thoroughly before and after with soap and water.	

REQUIREMENTS	ACTIONS
Record keeping	
<p>Keep a record of name and a mobile number or email address for all staff, volunteers, visitors and contractors for a period of at least 28 days. For households, one contact is sufficient to support contact tracing. Ensure records are used only for the purposes of tracing COVID-19 infections and are stored confidentially and securely.</p>	
<p>All places of worship must register their COVID-19 Safety Plan through nsw.gov.au.</p>	
<p>Make your staff aware of the COVIDSafe app and its benefits to support contact tracing if required.</p>	