

## CPE 50th Advisory: Phased Resumption of In-Person Classes from 11 October 2021

Dear Sirs,

1. On 7 October 2021, the Ministry of Education (MOE) announced the phased resumption of face-to-face classes for primary schools. This will take effect from 11 October 2021. The MOE media release is attached below:



MOE Press  
release-Phased Resun

### **[New] Resumption of face-to-face classes for students 12 years old and below is permitted**

5. In line with the return of students to primary schools, face-to-face classes for students aged 12 and below in PEIs may also resume from 11 October 2021, subject to all prevailing national Safe Management Measures (SMMs).

6. PEIs with students aged 12 and below are strongly advised to take reference from measures for MOE schools and adopt them where possible. This includes a phased return of students, and self-testing (such as Antigen Rapid Test (ART)) of students prior to returning to school. PEIs may also continue to implement Home-Based Learning (HBL) for their students where feasible. More information on these measures can be found in Annex A.

### **Social Responsibility and National SMMs**

7. All PEIs must continue to abide by the prevailing national SMMs. PEIs should also check [www.gov.sg/features/covid-19](http://www.gov.sg/features/covid-19) for the latest updates and advisories.

8. In addition to the above, PEIs are reminded to adhere to all prevailing SMMs on screening, hygiene and safe distancing:

a) **Screening:** Students and staff who are unwell, or who have household members on Home Quarantine Order/Stay Home Notice or have adult household members with flu-like symptoms such as fever and cough, are required to stay away from school and campus.

b) **Hygiene:** High-touch surfaces should be cleaned frequently, and disinfection of premises should be carried out daily, if not more frequently.

c) **Safe distancing:** All students and staff are to wear masks at all times<sup>1</sup>. There should be staggered arrival and dismissal to reduce congestion and intermingling among students in school and on campus.

<sup>1</sup> Children under 6 years old are not required to wear masks. Nonetheless, they are encouraged to wear a mask or face shield.

6. PEIs should regularly remind all students and staff that if they are unwell, even with mild flu-like symptoms, they should see a doctor immediately. They should minimize in-person interactions and isolate themselves at home as far as possible, unless they need to attend to essential activities (such as medical appointments). Students and staff should adopt safe distancing and good hygiene practices at all times.

**[Reminder] Implementation of enhanced ventilation and indoor air quality measures**

7. In line with the Guidance Note revised on 26 September 2021, PEIs are strongly encouraged to follow the recommended measures to enhance ventilation and air quality in indoor spaces, through proper operations and maintenance of air-conditioning and medical ventilation (ACMV) systems. It is recommended that CO2 levels should not exceed an average of 800ppm over the measurement period. The measures aim to reduce disease transmission amid the current COVID-19 situation. PEIs are strongly encouraged to follow the recommended measures to enhance ventilation and air quality of its indoor venues and spaces, in order to minimise the transmission of COVID-19. For more information on the recommended measures, PEIs should refer to:

- a) Updated Guidance Note: <https://go.gov.sg/bca-nea-moh-guidance-improve-ventilation>
- b) Frequently Asked Questions (FAQ): <https://go.gov.sg/bca-nea-moh-faqs-improve-ventilation>

8. Please contact [CPE\\_Registration@ssg.gov.sg](mailto:CPE_Registration@ssg.gov.sg) if you require any clarification.

Thank you.

**Phased resumption of in-person classes and SMMs for schools**  
**(updated/new areas in red)**

- **[updated]** Students will return to school in phases. Primary 3 to 6 students will return to school from 11 October while primary 1 to 2 students will return to school on 13 October.
- **[updated]** For students returning from HBL, they are strongly encouraged to do an Antigen Rapid Test (ART) before returning to school.
- CCAs, enrichment activities, after-school activities and post-exam activities are suspended.
- Students to be seated according to fixed exam-style seating arrangements in classrooms with group work up to 2 persons.
- **[updated]** During recess, students have fixed single seating with 1m spacing. There should be no interaction among the students. Unstructured play with members of their class in mask-on activities of up to 2 persons are allowed.
- **[updated]** All indoor mask-off activities during PE are suspended. Mask-off activities for individual activities in groups of 2 can be conducted outdoors for primary school students. For secondary school/Pre-U, mask-off activities conducted outdoors are allowed for up to groups of 2.
- Mask-off music and drama classes are to be suspended except for O/A-level music candidates, who can continue with exam preparations with testing.
- School-based examinations should still be carried out in classrooms or with no more than 50 students per venue.
- For Sec/JCCI national and school-based examinations, they can be conducted in school hall with no more than 250 students, in zones of 50 each. Students are to be seated more than 1.5m apart. If air-conditioning is used, schools are advised to ventilate the halls in between, before and after examinations.
- Schools are to strictly regulate the usage of enclosed common areas (e.g. library) with strict cohortisation and supervision.
- Only low intensity activities (i.e. masks on at all times) with wipe down and enforcement of the safe distancing measures are to be strictly regulated in the school gyms.
- Staff professional development should be conducted virtually as a default. Essential meetings which cannot be effectively conducted online may continue to be held on a face-to-face basis.