

1 North Buona Vista Drive Singapore 138675 Robinson Road P.O. Box 746 Telephone : (65) 6872 2220

Facsimile : (65) 6872 2220 Facsimile : (65) 6775 5826 Website : www.moe.gov.sg

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# SAFE MANAGEMENT MEASURES FOR PRIVATE TUITION AND ENRICHMENT IN PHASE 3 (HEIGHTENED ALERT)

The Multi-Ministry Task Force (MTF) announced on 10 June 2021 that as part of a calibrated reopening from **Monday, 14 June 2021**, we will move back to Phase 3 (Heightened Alert) in two steps. In line with this, if the situation remains under control in the coming weeks, inperson tuition and enrichment classes for students aged 18 and younger will be allowed to resume under part two of Phase 3 (Heightened Alert), which takes effect from **Monday, 21 June 2021**.

## Safe Management Measures in Centres with On-Premise Instruction

2. To reduce risk of transmission of COVID-19, centres with on-premise instruction are required to abide by the nationwide safe management measures for workplaces. These include health checks, the use of SafeEntry to support contact tracing for all employees, students and other visitors, wearing of masks at all times, and regular cleaning of common facilities and high-touch areas.

### Safe Management Measures for Centres Allowed to Continue On-Premise Instruction

- 3. For centres conducting on-premise instruction, they are expected to observe all the following measures in classrooms and other areas accessed by students. For avoidance of doubt, these measures apply to **all centres**, as and when on-premise instruction is allowed:
  - a. **Safe distancing.** Safe distancing measures for centres which are allowed to continue on-premise instruction include:
    - Students: Centres must ensure safe distancing between students by putting up appropriate floor demarcations and/or physical barriers, e.g. using safety tape. There must also be strict separation between students in different classrooms at all times, with no intermingling.
      - As a default, centres must ensure that students maintain safe distancing of at least 1m at all times, with strictly no physical interaction between students.
      - 2. If it is not possible to apply 1m safe distancing between students and some interaction is unavoidable, centres may instead organise students into groups of no more than five students, with strictly no physical interaction or intermingling between different groups. Centres must





strictly maintain a minimum of 1m spacing between groups, although MOE advises 2m spacing between groups as a best practice.

- ii. <u>Tutors/instructors</u>: Tutors/instructors are advised to minimise contact with students. If some interaction is unavoidable, contact with students should be transient. Tutors/instructors should remain at the front of the class as much as is practicable.
- iii. <u>Capacity</u>: No single room within a centre should hold more than 50 persons, including tutors/instructors, even as the above measures are adopted.
- iv. Centres are also reminded that per MOM's guidelines for workplaces, there should be no cross-deployment across worksites. More information on prevailing workplace SMMs can be found on the MOM website (<a href="https://www.mom.gov.sg/covid-19/requirements-for-safe-management-measures">https://www.mom.gov.sg/covid-19/requirements-for-safe-management-measures</a>).
- b. Health declarations. Centres should not permit students who are placed on Leave of Absence (LOA) or Approved Absence (AA) by their schools, or students and staff who are on a Stay Home Notice (SHN), or Home Quarantine Order (HQO) to enter the centre premises. We also advise centres to watch out for staff and students with fever or respiratory symptoms, such as sneezing, breathlessness, runny nose, loss of smell, cough, or sore throat. Staff and students with the above symptoms or are unwell should be advised to leave the centre and see a doctor immediately, and should not be allowed to attend lessons. As a best practice, centres should also check if a family member living in the same household is unwell. If so, the child should not attend lessons in person.
- c. **Disinfection of surfaces.** All surfaces in classrooms must be thoroughly disinfected between classes. Sharing of all equipment (e.g. props, music scores, and microphones) should be avoided as far as possible. If this cannot be done, the equipment should be thoroughly cleaned and/or disinfected before being handled or used by others. However, please note that sharing of wind/brass instruments or parts thereof (e.g. mouthpieces, reeds) is not allowed. (Note that all in-person singing, and wind/brass instrument classes are suspended in the first part of Phase Three (Heightened Alert) i.e, until 20 June 2021.)
- d. Masks must be worn as a default at all times, except for persons allowed to use face shields instead of masks (e.g. persons with health conditions resulting in breathing/medical difficulties when a mask is worn for a prolonged period). Instructors are expected to wear a <u>surgical mask or reusable masks of equivalent effectiveness</u> at all times.





- e. Class timings. Centres should allocate at least 15 minutes between classes. This is to allow adequate time to disinfect classroom surfaces, and to ensure strict separation of individuals from different classes. Centres should also work out attendance and dismissal arrangements that help avoid congestion of individuals in or outside the centre.
- f. Ventilation. All premises should abide by the latest guidance on improving ventilation and indoor air quality in buildings amid the COVID-19 situation, available at: <a href="https://www.nea.gov.sg/our-services/public-cleanliness/environmental-cleaning-guidelines/advisories/guidance-on-improving-ventilation-and-indoor-air-quality-in-buildings-amid-the-covid-19-situation.">https://www.nea.gov.sg/our-services/public-cleanliness/environmental-cleaning-guidelines/advisories/guidance-on-improving-ventilation-and-indoor-air-quality-in-buildings-amid-the-covid-19-situation.</a>
- 4. Centres should also abide by other sector-specific Safe Management Measures available on the <u>GoBusiness website</u>, and to prevailing circulars issued by the Government.

Sport or Physical Activity, Dance, Singing, Wind/Brass Instrument, Voice Training, Speech and Drama Classes

- 5. For all sport or physical activity classes, as well as outdoor dance classes, please refer to the Sport Singapore advisory, available at: <a href="https://www.sportsingapore.gov.sg/Newsroom/Media-Releases">https://www.sportsingapore.gov.sg/Newsroom/Media-Releases</a>.
- 6. For indoor dance classes, singing, wind/brass instrument classes, voice training, and speech and drama classes, please refer to the National Arts Council's advisory, available at <a href="https://www.nac.gov.sg/whatwedo/support/sustaining-the-arts-during-covid-19/Safe-Management-Measures-for-the-Arts-and-Culture-Sector-.html">https://www.nac.gov.sg/whatwedo/support/sustaining-the-arts-during-covid-19/Safe-Management-Measures-for-the-Arts-and-Culture-Sector-.html</a>.

## **Indoor Live Performances**

- 7. From 14 Jun 2021, tuition and enrichment centres may resume indoor live performances (e.g. music concerts or drama performances) with MOE's approval, subject to the safe management measures to ensure safety of performers, crews, and audiences outlined in the National Arts Council's Advisory, available at <a href="https://www.nac.gov.sg/whatwedo/support/sustaining-the-arts-during-covid-19/Safe-Management-Measures-for-the-Arts-and-Culture-Sector-.html">https://www.nac.gov.sg/whatwedo/support/sustaining-the-arts-during-covid-19/Safe-Management-Measures-for-the-Arts-and-Culture-Sector-.html</a>.
- 8. Tuition and enrichment centres who wish to apply to host an indoor live performance can submit an application to <a href="moe\_pss@moe.gov.sg">moe\_pss@moe.gov.sg</a> with the following details, at least three weeks in advance of the proposed event date:
  - a. Date of event:
  - b. Purpose of event;
  - c. Total number of performers and crew participating in live performance;
  - d. Total number of on-site audience; and





e. Proposed safe management measures.

## **Workforce Arrangements for Tuition and Enrichment Centres**

9. Tuition and enrichment centres must ensure that work-from-home is the default arrangement for employees who are able to do so. For employees who must return to the workplace, tuition and enrichment centres are required to abide by all prevailing safe management measures for workplaces. These include health checks, the use of SafeEntry to support contact tracing for all employees, wearing of masks at all times and regular cleaning of common facilities and high-touch areas. Details are available at the GoBusiness website (https://covid.gobusiness.gov.sg/safemanagement/general/).

#### **Private Tuition / Enrichment in Private Residences**

- 10. Home-based tuition/enrichment which are allowed to run in-person lessons will be subject to the prevailing national group size limit and number of unique household visitors allowed per day.
- 11. In addition, home ventilation should be improved by opening doors and windows. Fans can be used to promote air circulation when needed.

## Suspension of In-Person Private Tuition and Enrichment for Students aged 18 and younger, until 20 June 2021 (Inclusive)

- 12. In the meantime from now till 20 June 2021 (inclusive), all organisations and individuals offering tuition and enrichment activities, whether academic or non-academic, must conduct their lessons for students aged 18 and younger online or otherwise suspend these lessons during this period. This includes but is not limited to education and development support activities, arts and culture classes and workshops, religious classes, as well as sports and physical activity classes and programmes.
- 13. The above suspension applies to all organisations and individuals (including centre-based classes, home-based businesses, as well as one-on-one classes) except for the following, which may continue on-premise instruction, subject to prevailing safe management measures:
  - a. MOE-registered Foreign System Kindergartens;
  - b. Organisations providing full-time pre-tertiary education to students age 18 and below that leads to a qualification, i.e. Private Education Institutions (PEIs) registered with the Committee for Private Education and Privately-funded Schools (PFSs)<sup>1</sup>.
  - c. [Updated 14 Jun 21] Organisations and individuals providing consultation and assessment services for students provided by therapists regulated by the Allied

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>1</sup> I.e., Anglo-Chinese School (International), Hwa Chong International School, St Joseph's Institution International (High School)



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- Health Professions Council or psychologists registered with the Singapore Psychological Society's Register of Psychologists, in alignment with MOH guidelines on healthcare services;
- d. **[Updated 14 Jun 21]** Early Intervention (EI) centres funded by the Early Childhood Development Agency (ECDA)<sup>2</sup>, in compliance with ECDA's guidelines for EI services; and
- e. **[Updated 14 Jun 21]** Organisations and individuals when providing outdoor sport or physical activity classes and programmes, subject to the prevailing group size limit:
  - i. <u>(From 14 June to 20 June 2021; inclusive)</u>: Class size of five persons, inclusive of instructor, allowed.
- 14. For avoidance of doubt, Early Childhood Development Centres licensed by ECDA, and student care centres may continue to provide care to children, subject to all prevailing safe management measures. On-premise instruction provided in the course of this care will be permitted. Please refer to the advisory on Student Care Centres available on the Sector-Specific Requirements on the GoBusiness website (<a href="https://covid.gobusiness.gov.sg/safemanagement/sector/">https://covid.gobusiness.gov.sg/safemanagement/sector/</a>)
- 15. Classes catering exclusively to students older than 18 years old may continue in person, subject to all prevailing safe management measures.
- 16. Centres catering to students older than 18 years old do not need to apply for a business exemption.

## SafeEntry and TraceTogether Programme

- 17. On 4 May 2021, the MTF announced that TraceTogether-only SafeEntry (TT-only SafeEntry) will be implemented at all venues that experience higher throughput of visitors, and/or where people are likely to be in close proximity for prolonged periods from 17 May 2021. The TT programme and SafeEntry are important digital tools that enable contact tracers to quickly identify and isolate close contacts of Covid-19 cases. This helps to break transmission chains and prevent community outbreaks. TT tokens may be collected at designated collection points (please refer to https://token.gowhere.gov.sg for more information).
- 18. TT-only SafeEntry must be implemented, in your premises, and entry to your centres will be allowed only if the individual uses their TT App to scan the centre's QR code or presents the QR code on the TT token to be scanned. This includes staff, students aged 7 years and above, parents and other visitors.
- 19. From 15 June 2021, it is mandatory for all tuition and enrichment centres to deploy SafeEntry Gateway (SEGW) to facilitate SafeEntry (SE) check-in for students aged 7 years and

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>2</sup> Businesses or individuals that provide arts and sports therapy can approach NAC or SportSG respectively to appeal to continue their services.





above, parents, staff and visitors, and help users check that their TT token is working. Tuition and enrichment centres are reminded to download the SafeEntry (Business) app to use the SEGW function, or register for a SEGW box on the SE website (go.gov.sg/gateway-overview).

- 20. **[Updated 14 Jun 21]** At the point of entry into the centres, if any student forgets to bring their TT token, they should be asked to download the TT app on their phones before they are allowed entry. However, if the student is unable to do so (e.g. phone is out of battery), the student's personal details should be noted down as a last resort, before the individual is granted entry. The centre should retain all such records for at least a month to facilitate contact tracing if necessary.
- 21. Business may refer to the SafeEntry User Guide for requirements on how to scan the TT tokens, available at <a href="https://www.safeentry.gov.sg">https://www.safeentry.gov.sg</a> (please navigate to Resources > User Guide > SafeEntry NRIC User Guide for Business).
- 22. Updates may also be found at <a href="https://www.smartnation.gov.sg/whats-new/press-releases">https://www.smartnation.gov.sg/whats-new/press-releases</a>.

## **Inspections**

- 23. Tuition and enrichment centres are responsible for ensuring that all safe management measures are implemented in their premises at all times. To ensure compliance, inspectors from MOE will be conducting inspections to check on the proper implementation of the SMMs. **Under the COVID-19 (Temporary Measures) Act**, first-time offenders will face a fine of up to \$\$10,000, imprisonment of up to six months, or both. For subsequent offences, they may face a fine of up to \$\$20,000, imprisonment of up to twelve months, or both.
- 24. Businesses that do not implement or comply with the government's SMMs may be ineligible for government grants, loans, tax rebates and other assistance, and may also be subject to temporary closures.

### **Updates and Clarifications**

- 25. There will be regular review of measures and requirements as the COVID-19 situation evolves. For updates, please refer to the GoBusiness website (https://covid.gobusiness.gov.sg/).
- 26. For clarifications, please refer to the following:

Agency	Contact
MOE	FAQs: https://moe.gov.sg/faqs-covid-19-infection
	You may also contact MOE at <a href="https://www.moe.gov.sg/contact">https://www.moe.gov.sg/contact</a>
ECDA	You may contact ECDA at <a href="mailto:contact@ecda.gov.sg">contact@ecda.gov.sg</a>
National Arts Council	You may contact NAC at NAC Feedback@nac.gov.sg





Sport Singapore	You may contact SportSG at
	https://members.myactivesg.com/feedback



