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## SAFE MANAGEMENT MEASURES FOR PRIVATE TUITION AND ENRICHMENT

The Multi-Ministry Task Force (MTF) announced on 16 February 2022 that we will further simplify our existing healthcare protocols, workplace testing requirements and Safe Management Measures (SMMs), so that everyone can understand the rules, focus on the measures that matter, and do our part in making sure our measures remain effective.

### **[Updated 17 February 2022] Fast and Easy Testing (FET) and Requirements for Private Tuition and Enrichment**

2. In line with the shift in focus towards protecting the vulnerable population and managing severe cases, **from 18 February 2022**, Rostered Routine Testing will be streamlined to focus only on settings catering to vulnerable groups (i.e. healthcare sector, eldercare sector, and settings with children below 5 years old<sup>1</sup>) and all enterprises in the Private Tuition and Enrichment sector that were on the FET regime will no longer be required to continue testing.

### **[Updated 17 February 2022] Safe Management Measures in Centres with On-Site Instruction**

3. To reduce risk of transmission of COVID-19, centres that conduct on-site instruction are required to abide by the nationwide safe management measures for workplaces. These include 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.

4. All classes involving indoor mask-off activities, singing classes, as well as classes involving the playing of instruments that require the intentional expulsion of air (e.g. wind/brass instruments) may continue, subject to different class size and group size limits, depending on the activity, setting and vaccination<sup>2</sup> status of students:

- a. For all sport or physical activity classes, as well as outdoor dance classes, please refer to the Sport Singapore advisory, available at: <https://www.sportsingapore.gov.sg/Newsroom/Media-Releases>.

<sup>1</sup> This includes staff as well as third-party vendors in preschools, Early Intervention centres, and Private Education Institutions with children below 5 years old.

<sup>2</sup> Please refer to the First Schedule of the Infectious Diseases (COVID-19 Access Restrictions and Clearance) Regulations 2021 for the most updated information on the vaccination regimen and approved vaccines recognised for eligibility for vaccination differentiated SMMs.

- b. For indoor dance classes, singing, the playing of instruments that require the intentional expulsion of air (e.g. wind/brass instruments), voice training, and speech and drama classes, please refer to the National Arts Council's advisory, available at <https://www.nac.gov.sg/support/covid-19/safe-management-measures-smms>.

5. All centres conducting on-site instruction (whether indoors or outdoors), 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 classes**, including sports or physical activity, dance, singing, the playing of instruments that require the intentional expulsion of air (e.g. wind/brass instruments), voice training, and speech and drama classes, except where there are additional safe management measures, as set out in Para 4.

- a. **Safe distancing.** Safe distancing measures for centres which are allowed to continue on-site instruction include:

*(Paragraphs 5ai to 5aiv apply from 17 February to 24 February 2022)*

- i. 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.
  1. 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 **5 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. Tutors/instructors: 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. Capacity: 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, should there be staff deployed on site, centres must ensure that there is no cross-deployment across worksites. No staff should work at more than one worksite to reduce the risk of infection caused by inter-mingling. More information on

prevailing workplace safe management measures can be found on the MOM website (<https://www.mom.gov.sg/covid-19/requirements-for-safe-management-measures>).

*(Paragraphs 5av to 5avii apply from 25 February 2022 onwards)*

- v. **Students:** In mask-on settings, safe distancing will not be required between individuals or groups. However, centres are encouraged to maintain safe distancing of 1m between individuals or organise students into groups of no more than **5 persons**, with 1m spacing between groups where possible.
  - vi. **(Till 3 March 2022) Capacity:** No single room within a centre should hold more than **50 persons**, including tutors/instructors. **From 4 March 2022**, indoor spaces may contain up to 1,000 persons, including tutors/instructors, subject to prevailing fire safety and room capacity requirements.
  - vii. There will be no restrictions on cross-deployment of employees across workplaces. More information on prevailing workplace safe management measures can be found on the MOM website (<https://www.mom.gov.sg/covid-19/requirements-for-safe-management-measures>).
- b. Health declarations.** Students and staff who are on Health Risk Warning (HRW) or Health Risk Notice (HRN) are encouraged to minimise unnecessary social interactions. In the event that they need to enter the centre, they may only be allowed to enter the centre if they produce photo-evidence of a negative Antigen Rapid test (ART) taken on that day. 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.
- c. Disinfection of surfaces.** All surfaces in classrooms should 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.
- 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 surgical mask or reusable masks of equivalent effectiveness 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: <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>.

6. Centres should also abide by other sector-specific safe management measures available on the [GoBusiness website](#), and to prevailing circulars issued by the Government.

### Indoor Live Performances

7. Tuition and enrichment centres may resume indoor live performances with MOE's approval, subject to adherence to safe management measures outlined in the National Arts Council Advisory, available at: <https://www.nac.gov.sg/support/covid-19/safe-management-measures-smms/updated-resumption-of-live-performances>.

8. Tuition and enrichment centres who wish to seek approval to proceed with live performances should write to [moe\\_pss@moe.gov.sg](mailto:moe_pss@moe.gov.sg) at least three weeks in advance of the proposed event date.<sup>3</sup>

### **[Updated 17 February 2022] Workforce Arrangements for Tuition and Enrichment Centres**

9. With the implementation of Workforce Vaccination Measures, only employees who are fully vaccinated, or have recovered from COVID-19 within the past 180 days, can return to the workplace. More information can be found on the MOM website (<https://www.mom.gov.sg/covid-19/advisory-on-covid-19-vaccination-in-employment-settings>)

10. Up to 50% of those who can work from home are allowed to return to the office. For employees who return to the workplace, centres are required to abide by all prevailing safe management measures for workplaces. More information on prevailing workplace safe management measures can be found on the MOM website (<https://www.mom.gov.sg/covid-19>).

### **[Updated 17 February 2022] Private Tuition / Enrichment in Private Residences**

11. Home-based tuition/enrichment that conduct in-person lessons will be subject to the prevailing national group size limit. Individuals who visit private residences to provide tuition and

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<sup>3</sup> When seeking approval, please provide information on the (a) purpose of event, date and time, (b) total number of performers and crew participating in live performance; and (c) total number of on-site audience.

enrichment are strongly advised to only visit other residences if they are fully vaccinated, so as to protect those who are unvaccinated from exposure to the virus. The prevailing national limits can be found at <https://www.moh.gov.sg/covid-19-phase-advisory>.

12. Home ventilation should be improved by opening doors and windows. Fans can be used to promote air circulation when needed.

### **SafeEntry and TraceTogether Programme**

13. 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).

14. 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.

15. 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 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](https://go.gov.sg/gateway-overview)).

16. 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.

17. Business may refer to the SafeEntry User Guide for requirements on how to scan the TT tokens, available at <https://www.safeentry.gov.sg> (please navigate to Resources > User Guide > SafeEntry NRIC User Guide for Business).

18. Updates may also be found at <https://www.smartnation.gov.sg/whats-new/press-releases>.

### **Inspections**

19. Tuition and enrichment centres are responsible for ensuring that all safe management measures are implemented onsite at all times. To ensure compliance, inspectors from MOE will be conducting inspections to check on the proper implementation of the safe management

measures. **Under the COVID-19 (Temporary Measures) Act, first-time offenders will face a fine of up to S\$10,000, imprisonment of up to six months, or both. For subsequent offences, they may face a fine of up to S\$20,000, imprisonment of up to twelve months, or both.**

20. Businesses that do not implement or comply with the government's safe management measures may be ineligible for government grants, loans, tax rebates and other assistance, and may also be subject to temporary closures.

### Updates and Clarifications

21. 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/>).

22. For clarifications, please refer to the following:

Agency	Contact
MOE	FAQs: <a href="https://moe.gov.sg/faqs-covid-19-infection">https://moe.gov.sg/faqs-covid-19-infection</a> 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 <a href="mailto:NAC_Feedback@nac.gov.sg">NAC_Feedback@nac.gov.sg</a>
Sport Singapore	You may contact SportSG at <a href="https://members.myactivesg.com/feedback">https://members.myactivesg.com/feedback</a>