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14 March 2022

SAFE MANAGEMENT MEASURES FOR PRIVATE TUITION AND ENRICHMENT

The Multi-Ministry Task Force (MTF) announced on 11 March 2022 that we will proceed with the streamlining of Safe Management Measures (SMMs) to five core parameters (SMM 1 – 5), with effect from 15 March 2022, which will prepare us for further easing of measures and the safe resumption of normal activities, when conditions are right and the healthcare workload has eased, which we expect in the coming weeks.

Fast and Easy Testing (FET) and Requirements for Private Tuition and Enrichment

2. All enterprises in the Private Tuition and Enrichment sector that were on the FET regime are no longer required to continue testing. In line with the shift in focus towards protecting the vulnerable population and managing severe cases, **since 18 February 2022**, Rostered Routine Testing was streamlined to focus only on settings catering to vulnerable groups (i.e., healthcare sector, eldercare sector, and settings with children below 5 years old¹).

[With effect from 15 March 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 SMMs 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 vaccination² 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/COVID19/Safe-Management-Measures.

² 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.





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

- 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:
 - i. <u>Students</u>: Safe distancing will continue to be required for all mask-off settings, and encouraged but not required for mask-on settings. Hence, for mask-on classes, 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.
 - ii. <u>Capacity</u>: Mask-on classes can proceed without being subject to any capacity limit, subject to prevailing fire safety and room capacity requirements.
 - iii. The specific restriction on cross-deployment of employees across workplaces will be removed. 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 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 photoevidence 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 <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 on the <u>NEA</u> website.
- 6. 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.

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 at least three weeks in advance of the proposed event date.³

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

³ 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.





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).

[With effect from 15 March 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 and number of unique household visitors allowed at any one time. Individuals who visit private residences to provide tuition and 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).
- 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: https://moe.gov.sg/faqs-covid-19-infection
	You may also contact MOE at https://www.moe.gov.sg/contact
ECDA	You may contact ECDA at contact@ecda.gov.sg
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



