**CPE 54th Advisory: Calibrated Adjustments in Stabilisation Phase**

Dear Sirs,

1. On 8 November 2021, the Multi-Ministry Taskforce (MTF) announced an update to the Safe Management Measures (SMMs) from 25 October to 21 November 2021 (dates inclusive). The Ministry of Education (MOE) has also issued a media release with updates to SMMs in the education sector to facilitate the resumption of more aspects of student life. These changes will take place **from 10 November 2021**. The MTF and MOE media releases are attached below:



**Guidance for Private Education Institutions (PEIs)**

**[Updated]***National SMMs*

1. All PEIs must continue to abide by all prevailing national SMMs . These include but are not limited to:
2. **Safe Distancing:** Permissible group size of two students per group, with safe distancing of at least one metre and no physical interactions between groups.
3. **[New]Concession for Medically Ineligible Individuals across Settings with Vaccination-Differentiated SMMs (VDS):** From **1 December 2021**, individuals who are medically ineligible for all COVID-19 vaccines under the National Vaccination Programme (NVP) will be able to enter all premises or participate in activities where VDS are required. These includes entering shopping malls, dine-in at Food & Beverage (F&B) establishments including hawker centres and coffee shops, and attending religious services and live performances.
4. **[Updated]F&B outlets:** Up to 5 fully vaccinated persons from the same household, will be allowed to dine-in together at F&B establishments excluding hawker centres and coffee shops from **10 November 2021**. This will allow families living in the same household, who already closely interact with each other on a daily basis, to enjoy a meal together, without affecting the balance achieved in managing the COVID-19 situation thus far. The dine-in group size for those not from the same household will remain capped at 2 persons. For avoidance of doubt, unvaccinated individuals with a valid negative pre-event test (PET) result, recovered individuals, children aged 12 years and below, and medically ineligible individuals (from 1 December 2021, see Para 2b) may also be included in such groups. From **10 November 2021**, the playing of soft recorded music in F&B establishments will also be allowed.

**[New]***Activities in MOE Schools and Institutes of Higher Learning (IHLs)*

1. **PEIs must continue to follow national guidelines (i.e. group size of two for mask-on activities)**. For information, MOE has shared that there will be resumption of activities in MOE schools and IHLs, including conducting masked activities in sub-groups of up to 5 persons, subject to existing SMMs, and piloting the resumption of team sports formats, to allow a group of up to 10 fully vaccinated persons (including players, umpires, linesmen, etc. **For avoidance of doubt, this only applies to MOE Schools and IHLs.**

**[Updated]** *Sector-Specific Guidelines for Higher Risk Activities*

1. PEIs are also required to adhere to all prevailing guidelines for higher-risk classes and activities on campus. Additional safe management measures apply for Sport or Physical Activity, Dance, Singing, Wind/Brass Instrument, Voice Training, Speech and Drama Classes:
2. 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>
3. 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 <https://www.nac.gov.sg/whatwedo/support/sustaining-the-arts-during-covid-19/Safe-Management-Measures-for-the-Arts-and-Culture-Sector.html>
4. Live Performances: Live performances may be permitted, subject to the relevant SMMs outlined in National Arts Council (NAC)’s advisory. For live performances in PEI venues, they can be open to ticketed members of public. Nevertheless, PEIs should seek approval from CPE prior to organising live performances.

**[New]** *Pre-tertiary PEIs may Apply for Exemption from Vaccination-Differentiated SMMs (VDS) for Dining In*

1. PEIs offering pre-tertiary levels (i.e. for students in the equivalent of secondary schools and below) may allow students, regardless of vaccination status to dine in at the school canteen(s)/other designated dine-in area(s), as long as the school canteen(s)/other designated dine-in area(s) are exclusive for school use, and the public does not access these areas.
2. This dispensation **only applies to students (not staff)**. PEIs who wish to apply for the dispensation for their students must use the FormSG at https://go.gov.sg/exemption-diningin to declare that they will adhere to all the following conditions:
   1. All individuals in the canteen(s)/designated dine-in area(s) are to dine in individually with 1m spacing;
   2. PEIs will adjust the seating configuration of the canteen(s)/designated dine-in area(s) to ensure that condition stated in paragraph 7(a) is adhered to, as far as it is practicable (e.g. demarcating seats on benches, distancing between chairs to ensure 1m spacing, etc.); and
   3. PEIs must not allow public access to the canteen(s)/designated dine-in area(s).

**[Updated]***Workplace measures*

1. **[Updated]Work-from-home (WFH) will continue to be the default** for employees whose job functions can be performed from home**.** During this period, the 10-day snap WFH regime will be suspended. There should continue to be no cross-deployment of staff as a default. Social gatherings at workplaces are disallowed. The following adjustments to prevailing workplace SMMs will also take effect from **10 November 2021**:
2. **Work-related events**: Unmasking will now be allowed for up to 10 people engaged in public speaking at any time, so long as speaker maintains a safe distance of at least 2m from the audience at all times while speaking unmasked.
3. Please refer to the MOM [website](https://www.mom.gov.sg/covid-19/requirements-for-safe-management-measures) for the full workplace SMMs. Employers should also continue to stagger the start times of employees who need to return to the workplace and implement flexible working hours.
4. PEIs should also continue to be judicious in only allowing staff whose work must be done onsite, e.g. to support students attending in-person classes, provide other essential services or access lab-based equipment, to return, subject to SMMs. This group of employees is strongly encouraged to self-test weekly via an Antigen Rapid Test (ART) to keep infected employees from coming to work and keep their workplace safe. The ART should be completed within 24 hours before the expected end of their return to the workplace, and the employee should only return if tested negative. This should also apply to employees, on-site contractors and vendors, who need to return to the workplace for ad hoc reasons.
5. From 1 January 2022, only employees who are fully vaccinated[[1]](#footnote-1), or have recovered from COVID-19 within the past 270 days, can return to the workplace. Unvaccinated employees will not be allowed to return to the workplace unless they have tested negative for COVID-19 before returning to the workplace, and they will need to pay for the costs of these tests. The test should be a Pre-Event Test at an MOH-approved COVID-19 test provider (<https://www.moh.gov.sg/licensing-and-regulation/regulations-guidelines-and-circulars/details/list-of-covid-19-swab-providers>), and must be valid[[2]](#footnote-2) for the duration that the employees are required to be present at the workplace. PEIs may refer to the separate press release jointly issued by MOH and MOM, as well as in the tripartite advisory on vaccination at the workplace for further details.

**Social Responsibility and National SMMs**

1. All PEIs must continue to abide by 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.
2. In addition to the above, PEIs are reminded to adhere to the following:
3. Hygiene: High-touch surfaces should be cleaned frequently, and disinfection of premises should be carried out daily, if not more frequently.
4. Safe distancing: All students and staff are to wear masks at all times[[3]](#footnote-3). There should be staggered arrival and dismissal to reduce congestion and intermingling among students in school and on campus.
5. PEIs should regularly remind all students and staff that if they are experiencing symptoms such as fever, cough, sore throat etc., they should visit a Swab and Send Home (SASH) clinic via private transport for a doctor to assess and advise them on the next steps. Students and staff should adopt safe distancing and good hygiene practices at all times.
6. Please contact us via [CPE\_Registration@ssg.gov.sg](mailto:CPE_Registration@ssg.gov.sg) if you require any clarification.

Thank you.

1. An individual is considered vaccinated if he/she a) has been fully vaccinated, i.e. received the appropriate regimen of World Health Organization Emergency Use Listing (WHO EUL) vaccines including their respective duration post-vaccination for the vaccine to be fully effective and b) had their vaccination records ingested in MOH’s IT systems. [↑](#footnote-ref-1)
2. Negative ART results are valid for 24 hours. [↑](#footnote-ref-2)
3. Children under 6 years old are not required to wear masks. Nonetheless, they are encouraged to wear a mask or face shield. [↑](#footnote-ref-3)