**CPE 55th Advisory: Transition Phase Measures for Private Education Institutions from 22 November 2021**

Dear Sirs,

1. On 20 November 2021, the Multi-Ministry Task Force (MTF) announced the end of Stabilisation Phase on 21 November 2021 (date inclusive). A calibrated reopening of activities will be adopted as Singapore moves into a Transition Phase effective from 22 November 2021 onwards. The MTF press release is attached below.



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

**[Updated]** *National Safe Management Measures (SMMs)*

1. **[Updated] Social Gathering Group Size:** From 22 November 2021, the permissible social gathering group size will be increased from 2 persons to 5 persons.
2. Accordingly, activities in PEIs can resume in groups of five, subject to any additional and/or separate guidelines in paragraph 10 for specific higher-risk activities, including total participant caps and safe distance requirements, etc.
3. **[Updated] Food & Beverage (F&B) Outlets:** From 22 November 2021, groups of up to 5 persons, even if not from the same household, will be allowed to dine-in at F&B establishments if all the diners are fully vaccinated. For avoidance of doubt, unvaccinated children aged 12 years and below (i.e. born in 2009 or later) may be included within the group of 5 persons as long as all these children are from the same household. From 1 December 2021, medically ineligible persons may also be included within such groups of 5 persons.
4. Groups of up to 5 vaccinated persons can also dine in at coffeeshops[[1]](#footnote-1), including those in PEIs, as long as full Vaccination Differentiated Measures (VDS) checks are implemented from 22 November 2021. This includes the following control measures as follows:
5. **Inform Patrons:** Operators must put up posters to inform patrons that only fully vaccinated patrons are allowed to dine-in together in groups of up to 5. Operators should put up their own posters to begin the implementation. While coffeeshops do not need to seek Singapore Food Agency (SFA)’s approval to implement revised VDS measures, they can indicate interest with SFA here (<https://go.gov.sg/vdscoffeeshops>) to allow-up to 5 pax to dine-in. SFA will provide official posters after verifying the measures.
6. **Access Control:** Operators must introduce control access by cordoning off areas and have dedicated access points.
7. **Vaccination Status Checks:** At the entry points, operators must check the vaccination status of all patrons, and differentiate patrons who are fully vaccinated and dining in. Patrons may show their SafeEntry check-in green pass on their TraceTogether (TT) app or provide their TT token to be scanned to determine their vaccination status.
8. Please be reminded that operators are liable for enforcement action if they do not abide by all the required VDS measures. More information on the implementation of VDS for coffeeshops may be found in the joint advisory issued by the SFA and National Environment Agency (NEA) attached below.



1. For avoidance of doubt, pre-tertiary PEIs that have been previously granted exemption from VDS for dining-in may continue to allow students, regardless of vaccination status, to dine in at the school canteen(s), subject to conditions stipulated in the 54th advisory.
2. **[New] Extension of VDS to More Venues from 1 December 2021:** From 1 December 2021, VDS will be expanded to more settings and activities, including in all libraries under the National Library Board (NLB), and selected activities in community clubs/centres under People’s Association (PA). For avoidance of doubt, VDS is not required for libraries located within PEIs.
3. **[New]** **Removal of VDS Concession for Voluntarily Unvaccinated Individuals from 1 January 2022:** Under the current rules, unvaccinated individuals can get a Pre-Event Test (PET) from a Ministry of Health (MOH)-approved COVID-19 test provider and show a negative test result to enter a VDS setting. **This concession will be removed from 1 January 2022**, as part of efforts to protect unvaccinated individuals from getting infected, as they are subject to greater risk of illnesses. Hence, only fully vaccinated, recovered, or medically ineligible individuals, or children aged 12 years and below (subject to venue/event-specific caps) will be allowed to enter settings where VDS is implemented.

**[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.

*Workplace Measures*

1. **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.
2. Please refer to the Ministry of Manpower (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.
3. 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.
4. From 1 January 2022, only employees who are fully vaccinated[[2]](#footnote-2), 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[[3]](#footnote-3) 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[[4]](#footnote-4). 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. Coffeeshops refer to premises with Singapore Food Agency (SFA) coffeeshop, eating house, or canteen licenses that are not substantially enclosed by a permanent barrier. [↑](#footnote-ref-1)
2. 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-2)
3. Negative ART results are valid for 24 hours. [↑](#footnote-ref-3)
4. Children under 6 years old are not required to wear masks. Nonetheless, they are encouraged to wear a mask or face shield. [↑](#footnote-ref-4)