

Information for canteens regarding the Coronavirus (COVID-19)

The WA State Government and Department of Education have updated guidelines for Western Australian Public Schools. Relevant details for schools and canteens are included in this update. As always, canteen staff should consult their Principal when making plans to manage the impact of COVID-19.

Transition out of lockdown

Pending no further local cases, the five-day lockdown for the Perth, Peel and South West regions will end as planned. Perth and Peel will enter into a post-lockdown transition period until 12.01am, Sunday 14 February. This allows the full 14-day incubation period to run its course

From 6pm, Friday 5 February the following will come into effect:

- Under the post-lockdown transition measures, schools in Perth and Peel will start from Monday 8 February; this includes school canteens
- Masks are required to be worn by all school staff, including canteen staff, and secondary students. They are not required for primary school students
- Teaching staff are permitted to remove their mask if teaching at the front of the classroom to enable clear enunciation
- Residential school and boarding facilities can resume with a COVID Safety Plan
- Wearing a mask when in public and while at work, unless exempt or for vigorous outdoor exercise
- Masks are also mandatory for staff at childcare facilities, as well as students and staff in higher education including TAFEs and universities.

SafeWA contact registers

All visitors to school sites should sign in as per the [Visitors and Intruders on Public School Premises Policy and Procedures](#). School premises are not required to maintain a contact register, however, they may choose to do so. As this would be a school based decision, we encourage you to consult with your school board and community prior to implementing a contact register system.

If a school chooses to maintain a contact register for visitors entering the school for drop off and pick up, they could utilise the [SafeWA App](#), however they should also offer an alternative such as a [manual contact register](#) for those who do not have the App available.

It is important to note that SafeWA App data is held by the Department of Health and not accessible to the school. Normal sign in and sign out procedures should be maintained when allowing visitors onto school sites.

Best practice for canteens

- Canteen Supervisors should:
 - ensure all staff and volunteers have completed appropriate training
 - provide onsite orientation about canteen procedures, including but not limited to, wearing a mask; safety and hygiene practices; using gloves and sanitisers; and physical distancing measures.
- Training
 - All canteen staff and volunteers are strongly encouraged to complete the new FREE [Hospitality & Tourism COVID-19 Hygiene Course](#). The course has been backed by the WA Government and is designed to provide you with hygiene awareness and procedures
 - All canteen staff and volunteers must complete FoodSafe Food Handler training (or its equivalent) as per compliance with the Department of Education's *Healthy Food and Drink policy*. FoodSafe is available FREE online via the [WASCA website](#).
- Communication
 - Using your schools preferred method of communication, promote the canteen; including procedures that you are putting in place to provide a safe food service i.e. hand washing, sanitiser, gloves etc.
 - Advertise the operating days/hours; and ordering process
 - Online ordering and cashless systems are encouraged.
- Cleaning and sanitising
 - You should already have in place regular, scheduled cleaning of your canteen. Ensure any areas visited by workers or customers (e.g. canteen servery) are cleaned regularly and ensure cleaning activities are documented in a cleaning register
 - Frequently touched areas and surfaces should be cleaned continually throughout the day. This includes EFTPOS equipment, handrails, counter tops, doorknobs, and sinks
 - Ensure that there are adequate amounts of cleaning products, sanitisers and wipes for customers and staff, especially at high risk areas such as entry and service points.

WASCA Office

Our staff continue to work from home. We remain available to provide advice and assistance, and we encourage you to contact us.

- Please email wasca@education.wa.edu.au; alternatively, call 0402 047 658
- Follow us on Facebook for updates, competitions, training and events - <https://www.facebook.com/wascainc/>
- Visit the WASCA website for updates, recipes and other helpful resource - <https://www.waschoolcanteens.org.au/>

As always we encourage you continue to monitor and follow [WA Government information and advice](#).

Sources:

Department of Education COVID-19, UPDATE 59, 4 February 2021

WA State Government <https://www.wa.gov.au/government/covid-19-coronavirus>