

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.

See main operational updates in **yellow** page 2

Post - lockdown transition: Perth, Peel and Rottneest

The Perth and Peel 3-day lockdown will end at 12.01am Tuesday 27 April 2021. Details at WA.gov.au
People will be required to adhere to some COVID-safe measures until 12:01am, Saturday 1 May. The following measures will be in place:

- Under the post-lockdown transition, Perth and Peel schools will open with the mandatory mask rule; this includes school canteens
- Masks are required to be worn by all staff, including canteen staff and volunteers at all schools and secondary school students, unless:
 - the person has a physical, developmental or mental illness, injury, condition or disability which makes wearing a face covering unsuitable;
 - the person is communicating with a person who is deaf or hard of hearing and visibility of the mouth is essential for communication;
 - engaged in strenuous or vigorous exercise;
 - the person is consuming food, drink or medicine, provided that they are seated at the time.
- Teaching staff are permitted to remove their mask while teaching to help with clear communication, and instruction
- Primary school students are not required to wear masks while attending school
- Principals will provide information to parents in relation to the process of transitioning out of lockdown
- Universities will be open for online learning only
- Masks are also mandatory for staff at childcare facilities, as well as students and staff in higher education including TAFEs.

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

- **Operations**
 - a takeaway service is permitted
 - a full dine service is permitted; the 4sqm rule does not apply to schools so no need to adjust seating arrangements
 - Canteens remain open and the staff required to deliver the service are permitted on to school grounds. For the remainder of this week the number of volunteers should be maintained only at the level required to provide the key service as there is an effort to minimise the number of adults on site
 - School canteens may continue to be an exception from the requirement for a COVID-safe plan.

- 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 [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. This course now attracts a fee of \$18:00 however WASCA has secured a code that allows for FREE access, simply send WASCA an email with you name, role and school you are located at.
 - 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 are working from home for the period from Tuesday 27 April - Friday 30 April. We remain available to provide advice and assistance, and we encourage you to contact us.

- Please email wasca@education.wa.edu.au; alternatively, call 040 348 7181
- 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, 26 April 2021

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