

COVIDSafe Plan

Guidance on how to prepare your COVIDSafe Plan is available [here](#).

Our COVIDSafe Plan

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Document current as of 17 August 2021, with updated guidance in green font.

Guidance	Action to mitigate the introduction and spread of COVID-19
Hygiene	
<p>Provide and promote hand sanitiser stations for use on entering buildings and other locations in the worksite, and ensure adequate supplies of hand soap and paper towel are available for staff.</p>	<p>These items are provided as examples. You should review and delete/include/add information for your context.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> – Infrastructure to ensure an adequate supply of hand sanitiser, liquid soap, paper towel and disinfectant is available. Each building should have hand sanitiser and disinfectant wipes provided in entrances and occupied rooms. – Supply is being checked at the start and end of each day. – Cleaning contractor arrangements to include COVIDSafe daily end-of-school-day routine cleaning of all buildings' surfaces, with a focus on high-touch surfaces using a hospital-grade disinfectant. – Staff are being reminded to carefully place all paper towels, wipes and disposable personal protective equipment (PPE) in bins for cleaners to collect. – Bin liners are being replaced daily or as required and, if reused, disinfected. – Information has been provided to staff on washing hands or using hand sanitiser before and after moving between rooms or buildings, and after touching any doors. – Infrastructure to ensure an ample supply of > 60% alcohol-based hand sanitiser is available. <p>For more information: Infectious Cleaning Guidelines.</p>
<p>Where possible, enhance airflow by opening windows and adjusting air conditioning.</p>	<p>These items are provided as examples. You should review and delete/include/add information for your context.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> – Group activities have been rearranged to occur outdoors or in large indoor spaces where possible. – Staff are being encouraged to open windows and doors to promote airflow where possible. – Heating/split system filters are being cleaned on a regular basis to reduce the risk of airborne transmission. – Air conditioning systems have been set to use fresh air. <p>For more information: School Operations Guide.</p>

Guidance	Action to mitigate the introduction and spread of COVID-19
<p>In areas or workplaces where it is required, ensure all staff wear a face covering and/or required PPE, unless a lawful exception applies. Ensure adequate face coverings and PPE are available to staff who do not have their own.</p>	<p>These items are provided as examples. You should review and delete/include/add information for your context.</p> <p>Regional Victoria - return to face to face learning</p> <p>Based on advice from the Victorian Chief Health Officer, schools in regional Victoria will return to face-to-face learning and teaching for all students from and including Tuesday 10 August.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - All students and school staff in regional Victoria are required to attend for duty at their school in accordance with normal arrangements from and including Tuesday 10 August. - Out of School Hours Care (OSHC) programs in regional Victoria can resume full operations on Tuesday 10 August. - Students and staff who live in metropolitan Melbourne and are enrolled in or work in a school in regional Victoria will be able to attend on-site. - Students and staff who live in regional Victoria and are enrolled in or work in a school in metropolitan Melbourne will continue with remote and flexible working arrangements in place in metropolitan Melbourne. <p>Metropolitan Melbourne – continuation of remote and flexible learning</p> <p>Based on advice from the Victorian Chief Health Officer, schools in metropolitan Melbourne will continue with remote and flexible learning until Thursday 2 September 2021, except for students in the following categories:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Children where both parents and or carers are considered authorised workers who cannot work from home, work for an essential provider and where no other supervision arrangements can be made: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> o Where there are two parents/carers, both must be essential workers, working outside the home in order for their children to be eligible for on-site provision. o For single parents/ carers, the essential worker must be working outside the home in order for their children to be eligible for on-site provision. - Children experiencing vulnerability, including: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> o Children in out-of-home care o Children deemed vulnerable by a government agency, funded family or family violence service, and assessed as requiring education and care outside the family home o Children identified by a school or early childhood service as vulnerable, (including via referral from a government agency, or funded family or family violence service, homeless or youth justice service or mental health or other health service) - Where a parent/carer indicates that a student with a disability is vulnerable because they cannot learn from home, and/or informs the school the student is vulnerable due to family stress, the school must provide on-site supervision for that student. This may apply to students enrolled in specialist schools and students with a disability enrolled in mainstream schools. All specialist school staff will be required to be available to work on-site, except those medically vulnerable. - School staff and secondary school students aged 12 or older must always wear a face mask at school, including when attending an Outside School Hours Care (OSHC) program, unless a lawful exception applies. - Children under 12 years of age and students at primary school are not required to wear face masks when at school, or when attending an OSHC program. - For communication purposes, teachers and education support staff are not required to wear face masks while teaching, but those who wish to do so, can. - Face masks are mandatory for all school staff and school students aged 12 or older when travelling to and from school on public transport and when in taxis or ride share vehicles. <p>For more information: DHHS guidance on face masks.</p>
<p>Provide training to staff on the correct use and disposal of face coverings and PPE, and on good hygiene</p>	<p>These items are provided as examples. You should review and delete/include/add information for your context.</p> <p>All staff are being briefed on infection control precautions:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Avoid people with fevers, sweats, chills or flu-like symptoms.

Guidance	Action to mitigate the introduction and spread of COVID-19
<p>practices and slowing the spread of coronavirus (COVID-19).</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Use hand sanitiser between classes and after contact with commonly touched surfaces. - Maintain good cough etiquette. - Do not touch, kiss or hug others. - Use disinfectant wipes to clean computers and desks between different users and at the end of the day. - If a person has been advised by the DHHS that they are considered a 'close contact' of someone with a confirmed case of COVID-19, they must: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> o notify the school or office, self-isolate and arrange to be tested o not return to work until test results are obtained. <p>The DHHS will notify the school if a student is identified as a close contact of a person with COVID-19. The school will:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - liaise with the DHHS to confirm the student identified as a close contact is not attending school during quarantine and testing requirements - send the student home if they are attending school. <p>For more information: School Operations Guide.</p>
<p>Replace high-touch communal items with alternatives.</p>	<p>These items are provided as examples. You should review and delete/include/add information for your context.</p> <p>Progressive cleaning of high-touch surfaces throughout the school day is no longer required, noting that schools have in place a range of complementary COVIDSafe strategies to reduce transmission risk.</p> <p>For more information:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - School Operations Guide. - Infectious Cleaning Guidelines.
<p>Cleaning</p>	
<p>Increase environmental cleaning (including between changes of staff), and ensure high-touch surfaces are cleaned and disinfected regularly (at least twice daily).</p>	<p>These items are provided as examples. You should review and delete/include/add information for your context.</p> <p>Progressive cleaning of high-touch surfaces throughout the school day is no longer required, noting that schools have in place a range of complementary COVIDSafe strategies to reduce transmission risk.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Staff are being informed of the enhanced contractor cleaning arrangements and cleaning products. - Staff are being encouraged to regularly wipe down commonly touched surfaces with disinfectant wipes between classes. <p>Deep Cleaning</p> <p>Schools should close spaces that are not needed and only use the administrative and teaching spaces needed to maintain physical distancing requirements and effective learning conditions.</p> <p>To help us deliver any necessary deep cleaning, it's recommended that school staff working on site:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> o keep desks neat and tidy o file important documents before leaving each day o take personal belongings home each day (such as jackets, shoes, hats, gloves and face masks) o do not leave food or food containers out in the open (such as tea bags, biscuits, fruit, used cups, used cutlery) o store away shared and loose items (such as toys, musical instruments, and sporting equipment) o keep personal cutlery in a sealed container, not left out on a workstation. <p>For more information:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Infectious Cleaning Guidelines - Enhanced School Cleaning Guidelines.
<p>Ensure adequate supplies of cleaning products, including detergent and disinfectant.</p>	<p>These items are provided as examples. You should review and delete/include/add information for your context.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Cleaning contractor arrangements to include performing a thorough COVIDSafe routine clean of all buildings' surfaces at the end of each day and/or increased frequencies using a hospital-grade disinfectant. - Staff are being encouraged to carefully place all waste and disposable PPE in bins for cleaners to collect.

Guidance	Action to mitigate the introduction and spread of COVID-19
	For more information: School Operations Guide .
Guidance	Action to mitigate the introduction and spread of COVID-19
Physical distancing and limiting workplace attendance	
<p>Establish a system to screen employees and visitors before accessing the workplace. Employers cannot require employees to work when unwell.</p>	<p>These items are provided as examples. You should review and delete/include/add information for your context.</p> <p>Staff who must enter the workplace for authorised work will need to carry a permit certified by their principal, including when travelling for work.</p> <p>Staff permitted to work in a school are unable to enter any workplace other than the one for which they have a permit.</p> <p>Upon arrival at the campus or office, staff, students, visitors and contractors to be reminded to 'stay home if unwell'. They will be asked to confirm if they or anyone at home have:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - experienced fever or flu-like symptoms, such as coughing, sore throat and fatigue - experienced shortness of breath - been in close contact with someone who has returned from overseas in the last 14 days - been in close contact with someone with a confirmed case of COVID-19. <p>If upon arrival or during the day anyone exhibits COVID-19 symptoms, they will be immediately isolated. An incident report will be completed and the person encouraged to self-isolate until they can be tested and receive the result.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Staff and visitors are being reminded to remain hypervigilant in maintaining good personal hygiene. - For more information: School Operations Guide.
<p>Establish a system for managing visitors and large events.</p>	<p>These items are provided as examples. You should review and delete/include/add information for your context.</p> <p>Visitors</p> <p>Visitors to school premises should be limited to essential school services and operations.</p> <p>The density limit of 1 person per 4 square metres should be applied to any spaces and activities being attended by parent/carers and other visitors. The density limit applies to all persons in the space, including students.</p> <p>QR codes and record keeping</p> <p>The use of Service Victoria QR codes for electronic record keeping is mandatory in all schools to enable the effective contact tracing of any COVID-19 cases. QR code check ins are required to be used by:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> o all essential visitors on school site (including contractors, external MACS staff and building and maintenance staff) o all parents who enter school buildings when on school site for essential purposes <p>QR code check ins are not required to be used by:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> o staff o students o parents of eligible students who come onto school grounds for drop off or pick up, but do not enter buildings. <p>Schools are reminded that existing sign in and out processes should continue to be used to record essential visitor attendance, in particular the purpose of visits, for legal and regulatory obligations</p> <p>Further information is available at: https://www.coronavirus.vic.gov.au/victorian-government-qr-code-service</p> <p>Regional Victoria Schools</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - School camps and overnight stays for regional Victorian schools can take place within regional Victoria. Bookings must be limited to single schools. Multiple schools can attend camps providing school groups remain separated and do not share common facilities at the same time. Mixing of staff and students between different schools is not recommended. Testing

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	<p>requirements are now in place for the Victorian ski fields (see 'Intrastate and interstate travel').</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Outdoor education including excursions and overnight stays within regional Victoria, for the purpose of outdoor education are permitted. Programs should only operate for staff and students from single schools. Testing requirements are now in place for the Victorian ski fields (see 'Intrastate and interstate travel'). - Excursions are permitted within regional Victoria and should take place with students from single schools only. - There is no group size limit (but students should be in their class group) and excursions must be conducted in line with any specific capacity limits on venues that are being used. In most cases, density limits can be removed when a venue is being accessed by staff and students from a single school only. However, schools should check with venues to confirm any additional obligations under the Restricted Activity Directions - Excursion venues are responsible for managing record keeping for contact tracing in line with current public health directives. Venues are required to use electronic record keeping that connects with a digital system provided by Services Victoria. An electronic or hard copy list of student names (full name required) and contact numbers must be provided to the venue. Students are not required to individually check-in at the venue on the day. <p>Camps and excursions for metropolitan Melbourne schools cannot take place at this time.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Outdoor and indoor pools can be used in regional Victoria. <ul style="list-style-type: none"> o There is no limit on participant numbers where there is exclusive use of a pool facility by a single school at any one time for educational purposes o Where there is not exclusive use of a pool by a single school, the requirements of the Restricted Activity Directions apply. Schools should speak to swimming pool venues to determine how restrictions apply to the activity being undertaken. - Outdoor and indoor pools in metropolitan Melbourne cannot be used at this time. School pools should be closed for this period. - Physical education and intraschool sport in regional Victoria. <ul style="list-style-type: none"> o Outdoor and indoor contact and non-contact physical activity is permitted. Where using an external sporting facility in regional Victoria, density limits do not apply where there is exclusive use of the venue by single schools, however schools should continue to apply COVIDSafe principles to decision making, including avoiding interactions in closed spaces and physical distancing where practicable. - Sporting events in metropolitan Melbourne must be postponed. - Physical activity - Students receiving on-site supervision can participate in outdoor, non-contact physical activity - Singing and playing wind and brass instruments can occur in regional Victoria if Department of Health recommendations to reduce transmission risk are followed. Recommendations include moving outdoors, increasing ventilation, physical distancing of 2 metres between performers and 5 metres between performers and the audience, reducing the number of people, or reducing the length of time an activity is conducted. Further advice on ways to reduce risk can be found in DH guidance: COVID-19 transmission from air-circulating, windblowing devices and activities.

Guidance	Action to mitigate the introduction and spread of COVID-19
	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> – Singing, brass, woodwind classes and groups in metropolitan Melbourne must be postponed or occur remotely during this time. – Playgrounds cannot be used at this time. School pools should be closed for this period. – Drinking fountains can remain open. – Use of school facilities by community and sport groups, such as ovals and pools, is permitted in regional Victoria if the use aligns with Department of Health advice for the relevant activity, including the application of required density limits. Use of facilities during school hours should ensure there is no mixing between those using school facilities and school staff and students (e.g. a swim school's exclusive use of a school pool and change room). Use of school facilities is not permitted in metropolitan Melbourne. – School tours should not be conducted on-site for prospective students and their families at this time. – Non-essential visitors should be excluded from school sites for this period. – Non-essential meetings, and all school events, gatherings and assemblies should be deferred or held remotely. – School bus services across the state will continue to operate as normal. Students are not required to check-in via a QR code service when travelling on private school buses or disability transport services, however school bus services are required to keep accurate records of students and staff (including drivers) accessing these services should this information be required for contact tracing. For more information, please see https://www.coronavirus.vic.gov.au/school-bus-services. – Other curriculum settings such as the Victorian School of Languages and Science Centres should provide remote learning programs and activities where possible, with staff working from home. <p>For more information: School Operations Guide.</p>
<p>Configure communal work areas so that there is no more than one worker per four square metres of enclosed workspace, and employees are spaced at least 1.5 metres apart. Also consider installing screens or barriers.</p>	<p>These items are provided as examples. You should review and delete/include/add information for your context.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> – Common rooms and areas accessed by the public (reception areas) in each campus or office will be inspected and seating arrangements staggered to promote physical distancing in line with one person for every four square metres. – Floor marking will be introduced to maximise physical distancing. – Staff and visitors are being reminded to remain hypervigilant in maintaining good physical distancing, at all times. – Workstations, classrooms and reception areas will be reviewed and, wherever possible, reconfigured or modified to reduce the risk of person-to-person or person-to-surface transmission. – Shields, barriers and signage will be considered as part of the control measures. – Density limits do not apply in classrooms and other spaces for the purposes of student use, including corridors and other shared areas. <p>For more information:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> – School Operations Guide – Health and safety advice for all Victorian schools.
<p>Minimise the build-up of employees waiting to enter and exit the workplace.</p>	<p>These items are provided as examples. You should review and delete/include/add information for your context.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> – Schools must implement actions to reduce the congregation of adults around the school and ease congestion. Schools can do this through strategies such as the use of multiple entry/exit points, creating spaces for egress in different areas of the school and appropriate signage to communicate expected behaviours. – Schools must communicate the strategies in place to parents through local signage and school communications (e.g. letter and newsletter) to remind staff, students and families of the need for behaviours that support physical distancing.

Guidance	Action to mitigate the introduction and spread of COVID-19
	For more information: School Operations Guide .
<p>Provide training to staff on physical distancing expectations while working and socialising (e.g. during lunchbreaks).</p>	<p>These items are provided as examples. You should review and delete/include/add information for your context.</p> <p>Staff and adult visitors are being briefed to follow physical distancing rules:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> – Remain at least 1.5 metres from other individuals wherever possible; follow the ‘one person per four square metres’ rule. – Only have one person in small work areas. – Avoid shaking hands, hugging or touching others. – Avoid large gatherings indoors. – Hold meetings outside in the open air if possible. – Always use good hand and cough/sneeze hygiene. – Eat lunch outside rather than indoors if possible. – Don’t share food or drinks in the workplace. – Practise the hygiene and cleaning protocols detailed in this plan. <p>All staff on site are trained in the ‘School and Early Childhood Infection Prevention and Control During Coronavirus (COVID-19)’ eLearn module.</p> <p>For more information: Guidance on hygiene and physical distancing.</p>
<p>Review delivery protocols to limit contact between delivery drivers and staff.</p>	<p>These items are provided as examples. You should review and delete/include/add information for your context.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> – Visitors, contractors and delivery drivers are being advised to follow sign-in, physical distancing, hygiene and cleaning protocols detailed in this plan. – Designated delivery areas are being clearly signposted at entry points to minimise contact. – Staff and visitors are being reminded to remain hypervigilant in maintaining good personal hygiene, at all times. <p>For more information: School Operations Guide.</p>
<p>Where relevant, ensure clear and visible signage in areas open to the general public that specifies maximum occupancy of the space, as determined by the ‘four square metre’ rules and 1.5 metre physical distancing.</p>	<p>These items are provided as examples. You should review and delete/include/add information for your context.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> – Approved DHHS signage for schools and offices to be placed in clear and visible locations to promote physical distancing and good hygiene practices. <p>For more information: School Operations Guide.</p>

Guidance	Action to ensure effective record keeping
Record keeping	
<p>Establish a process to record the attendance of customers, clients, visitors, workplace inspectors and delivery drivers. This information will assist employers to identify close contacts.</p>	<p>These items are provided as examples. You should review and delete/include/add information for your context.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Schools must keep a record of all staff, students and visitors who attend on site for more than 15 minutes. - Schools must record the name, contact details, date and time of attendance at school, as well as the areas of the school that the person visited. - At the beginning of each work day, administration staff to check that visitor, contractor, staff and student sign-in records are updated for contact tracing purposes. - The sign-in process includes reference to maintaining the confidentiality of records in accordance with the <i>Privacy and Data Protection Act 2014</i> (Vic.). <p>Upon arrival at the school/office, all visitors, contractors, staff and students are being asked to confirm that they have not:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - experienced fever or flu-like symptoms, such as coughing, sore throat and fatigue - experienced shortness of breath - been in close contact with someone who has returned from overseas or a COVID-19 hotspot, in the last 14 days - been in close contact with someone with a confirmed case of COVID-19 - been required to remain in isolation.

Guidance	Action to ensure effective record keeping
	For more information: School Operations Guide (Term 2) .
<p>Provide guidance to staff on the effective use of the workplace OHS reporting system (where available).</p>	<p>These items are provided as examples. You should review and delete/include/add information for your context.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - COVID-19 related reporting is communicated to staff via a staff meeting. - Staff are advised to notify the school principal or office manager remotely and complete an incident report form on the CEVN website. - Medical advice and testing should be sought immediately. - If a staff member is diagnosed with COVID-19, this must be reported to the DHHS and WorkSafe Victoria by calling 13 23 60. - Staff must not return to work until medically cleared to do so. <p>For more information: School Operations Guide.</p>
Guidance	Action to prepare for your response
Preparing your response to a suspected or confirmed COVID-19 case	
<p>Prepare or update your business continuity plan to consider the impacts of an outbreak and potential closure of the workplace.</p>	<p>These items are provided as examples. You should review and delete/include/add information for your context.</p> <p>The school has considered:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - preparing for absenteeism of staff due to quarantine or self-isolation while waiting for test results - key dependencies - delivery of essential services - communications during a critical incident. <p>For more information:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Coronavirus Reactive Closure: Steps for Principals - Coronavirus: School Closure -- Reactive Communications Pack.
<p>Prepare to assist the DHHS with contact tracing, and providing staff and visitor records to support contact tracing.</p>	<p>These items are provided as examples. You should review and delete/include/add information for your context.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Administration staff will be able to provide visitor, contractor, staff and student records from the period of 48 hours prior to the onset of symptoms in a suspected case of COVID-19 to the DHHS. This will assist with contact tracing should someone test positive. <p>For more information: School Operations Guide.</p>
<p>Prepare to undertake cleaning and disinfection at your business premises. Assess whether the workplace or parts of the workplace must be closed.</p>	<p>These items are provided as examples. You should review and delete/include/add information for your context.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - If a confirmed or suspected COVID-19 case has been in the workplace, deep cleaning to take place in accordance with DHHS guidelines. - The school will follow directions provided by the DHHS regarding partial or full school closure. <p>For more information: Infectious Cleaning Guidelines.</p>
<p>Prepare for how you will manage a suspected or confirmed case in an employee during work hours.</p>	<p>These items are provided as examples. You should review and delete/include/add information for your context.</p> <p>If a staff member or student is suspected of having COVID-19:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - isolate the person immediately - notify the school/office leadership team - complete an incident report form - make arrangements for the person to travel home and to be tested. Advise them to self-isolate until the test result is received - continue with enhanced cleaning regime until the outcome of the case is known - if the case is positive, facilitate a 'deep' clean of the facilities as per the Infectious Cleaning Guidelines - notify anyone potentially at risk to self-isolate and to also be tested. <p>To monitor close contacts, schools will now be advised if a student is identified by the DHHS as a close contact of a person with COVID-19. The school will:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - liaise with the DHHS to confirm the student identified as a close contact is not attending school during quarantine and testing requirements

Guidance	Action to ensure effective record keeping
	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> – send the student home if they are attending school. For more information: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> – School Operations Guide. – Coronavirus Reactive Closure: Steps for Principals – Coronavirus: School Closure – Reactive Communications Pack.
<p>Prepare to notify workforce and site visitors of a confirmed or suspected case.</p>	<p>These items are provided as examples. You should review and delete/include/add information for your context.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> – Follow the Coronavirus Reactive Closure: Steps for Principals and Coronavirus: School Closure – Reactive Communications Pack. – For all suspected COVID-19 cases, the employer will inform all staff not in close contact to be vigilant about the onset of symptoms.
<p>Prepare to immediately notify WorkSafe Victoria on 13 23 60 if you have a confirmed COVID-19 case at your workplace.</p>	<p>These items are provided as examples. You should review and delete/include/add information for your context.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> – The school principal or delegate is aware of the requirement. – If a staff member is diagnosed with COVID-19, it must be reported to WorkSafe Victoria by calling 13 23 60 or completing the online form.
<p>Confirm that your workplace can safely reopen and workers can return to work.</p>	<p>These items are provided as examples. You should review and delete/include/add information for your context.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> – In accordance with advice from the DHHS, the DHHS and WorkSafe Victoria must be notified that the workplace is reopening. For more information: School Operations Guide .
Guidance	Action to mitigate the introduction and spread of COVID-19
<p>VCE/VCAL (including VET in secondary schools) assessments</p>	
<p>Existing control measures listed above will apply with the following additional considerations:</p>	
<p>Hygiene</p>	
<p>In areas or workplaces where it is required, ensure all staff wear a face covering and/or required PPE, unless a lawful exception applies. Ensure adequate face coverings and PPE are available to staff who do not have their own.</p>	<p>These items are provided as examples. You should review and delete/include/add information for your context.</p> <p>GAT and VCE/VCAL</p> <p>This year's General Achievement Test (GAT) for Year 12 students will be rescheduled to keep Victorian students, teachers and broader school communities safe from coronavirus.</p> <p>With ongoing community transmission still occurring in metropolitan Melbourne, the Department of Health's public health team has recommended the GAT be rescheduled, reducing the risk of a further outbreak with large cohorts of students taking the test together.</p> <p>On the rescheduled date, students who are in quarantine as positive coronavirus cases or Primary Close Contacts, as well as schools deemed exposure sites, will receive an exemption from the GAT. This will not disadvantage students' results and will be taken into account with the Consideration of Educational Disadvantage process.</p> <p>MACS and the Victorian Curriculum and Assessment Authority (VCAA) will support schools in the coming weeks to make appropriate COVIDSafe plans to hold the GAT.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - VET and VCAL classes must continue to operate remotely in metropolitan Melbourne - Staff and students aged 12 or older must carry a face mask at all times and wear a face mask indoors when at school, unless a lawful exception applies. - Schools should consider the necessity of using shared equipment at this time. Such items may include shared computers, class sets of teaching and learning materials, and musical instruments. If used, strict hand hygiene should be followed before and after use. Risk can be further minimised by users of high-touch shared equipment wiping items down where appropriate, for example using a disinfectant/detergent wipe or cloth. - Music, including singing, brass and woodwind classes or groups must be postponed or occur remotely at this time. <p>Schools must consider and implement measures that may prevent or significantly reduce the risk of infection transmission as outlined in COVID-19 transmission</p>

Guidance	Action to ensure effective record keeping
	<p>from <u>air-circulating, wind-moving devices and activities</u>. Measures include physical distancing, moving outdoors, increasing ventilation, reducing the number of people or reducing the length of time of the activity. For more information: <u>School Operations Guide</u>.</p>
<p>Replace high-touch communal items with alternatives.</p>	<p>These items are provided as examples. You should review and delete/include/add information for your context.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> – Singing and playing wind and brass instruments can occur in regional Victoria if Department of Health recommendations to reduce transmission risk are followed. Recommendations include moving outdoors, increasing ventilation, physical distancing of 2 metres between performers and 5 metres between performers and the audience, reducing the number of people, or reducing the length of time an activity is conducted. Further advice on ways to reduce risk can be found in DH guidance: COVID-19 transmission from air-circulating, windblowing devices and activities. – Singing, brass, woodwind classes and groups in metropolitan Melbourne must be postponed or occur remotely during this time. – Further advice on ways to reduce risk can be found in DH guidance: COVID-19 transmission from air-circulating, wind-moving devices and activities.
<p>Cleaning</p>	
<p>Increase environmental cleaning (including between changes of staff), and ensure high-touch surfaces are cleaned and disinfected regularly (at least twice daily).</p>	<p>These items are provided as examples. You should review and delete/include/add information for your context.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> – Cleaning service providers will be given a detailed schedule of essential assessments planned to be undertaken for VCE/VCAL with as much notice as possible, including the approximate number of students, areas occupied and timetable. – Cleaning and disinfection of any shared equipment e.g. desks between groups of students (where use of equipment in succession cannot be avoided) to occur during VCE/VCAL assessments and preparation. <p>Schools should close spaces that are not needed and only use the administrative and teaching spaces needed to maintain physical distancing requirements and effective learning conditions.</p> <p>To help us deliver any necessary deep cleaning, it's recommended that school staff working on site:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> – keep desks neat and tidy – file important documents before leaving each day – take personal belongings home each day (such as jackets, shoes, hats, gloves and face masks) – do not leave food or food containers out in the open (such as tea bags, biscuits, fruit, used cups, used cutlery) – store away shared and loose items (such as toys, musical instruments, and sporting equipment) – keep personal cutlery in a sealed container, not left out on a workstation.
<p>Physical distancing and limiting workplace attendance</p>	
<p>Configure communal work areas so that there is no more than one individual per four square metres of enclosed workspace, and employees are spaced at least 1.5 metres apart. Also consider installing screens or barriers.</p>	<p>These items are provided as examples. You should review and delete/include/add information for your context.</p> <p>The maximum number of individuals in any one indoor space will not exceed the venue density quotient of one person per four square metres in public areas. Density limits do not apply in classrooms and other spaces for the purposes of student use, including corridors and other shared areas.</p>
<p>Modify the alignment of workstations so that students do not face one another.</p>	<p>These items are provided as examples. You should review and delete/include/add information for your context.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> – Workstations to be spaced out at a minimum of 1.5 metres between each chair for assessments.

Guidance	Action to ensure effective record keeping
Record keeping	
<p>Establish a process to record the attendance of customers, clients, visitors, workplace inspectors and delivery drivers. This information will assist employers to identify close contacts.</p>	<p>These items are provided as examples. You should review and delete/include/add information for your context.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> – A strict register of attendance and seating plans will apply for VCE/VCAL assessments. <p>For more information: Victorian Curriculum and Assessment Authority (VCAA) letter to principals.</p>

I acknowledge I understand my responsibilities and have implemented this COVIDSafe Plan in the workplace.

Signed *PVandekolk*

Name Patricia Vandekolk

Date 17/08/2021

You do not have to lodge your COVIDSafe Plan with the Victorian Government. However, you may be required to provide the COVIDSafe Plan to the Department of Health and Human Services (DHHS) or WorkSafe Victoria upon request or in the event of a confirmed positive case at your workplace. There will be random business spot checks for COVIDSafe Plans.