



# Phase 5

## Frequently asked questions

### School activities

Effective 23 June 2021.

This document is uncontrolled when printed.

Not all [COVID-19 information](#) is covered in these questions and answers.

#### Index

[Approved Specialist Programs](#)

[Assemblies](#)

[Canteens](#)

[Incursions, excursions and sport](#)

[Libraries](#)

[Meetings on site](#)

[PEAC](#)

[School music lessons](#)

[Swimming/therapy pools](#)

[Swimming programs](#)

[Third-party arrangements](#)

[Visitors to school sites](#)

[Work placements and work experience](#)

#### Approved Specialist Programs

[\(back to index\)](#)

##### 1. Can schools with Approved Specialist Programs undertake activities?

- Yes.
- Good hygiene practices should be promoted and applied.
- Adults should maintain physical distancing of 1.5 metres, where possible.

##### 2. Are programs where primary school students travel to secondary schools able to take place?

- Yes.
- Good hygiene practices should be promoted and applied.
- Adults should maintain physical distancing of 1.5 metres, where possible.

#### Assemblies

[\(back to index\)](#)

##### 3. Can assemblies occur?

- Yes.
- Good hygiene practices should be promoted and applied.
- Adult visitors and staff should maintain physical distancing of 1.5 metres, where possible.

## Canteens

[\(back to index\)](#)

### 4. Can school canteens provide full service if dining facilities exist?

- Yes.
- Physical distancing of 1.5 metres between adults, where possible, and good hygiene practices should be maintained.
- Maintain regular cleaning regimes.
- No upper limit to the numbers.

### 5. Can parents volunteer to work in school canteen?

- Yes.
- Volunteers should stay home if unwell.
- Practice good hygiene and physical distancing of 1.5 metres between adults, where possible.

### 6. Do school canteens need to complete COVID Safety Plans and AHA training?

- No.
- School canteens are an exception to this requirement.

## Incursions, excursions and sport

[\(back to index\)](#)

### 7. Can incursions and excursions occur?

- Yes.
- Continue physical distancing (1.5 metres between adults), where possible and maintain good personal and hand hygiene.
- Stay home if you are unwell.
- WA businesses are expected to ensure their COVID Safety Plans are updated and continue to be implemented.

### 8. Can interschool sports occur?

- Yes.
- Interschool activities can occur.
- Continue physical distancing (1.5 metres between adults), where possible and maintain good personal and hand hygiene.
- If your interschool sports event is located at offsite venue (not a school), WA businesses are expected to ensure their COVID Safety Plans are updated and continue to be implemented.
- Stay home if you are unwell.

### 9. Can we play contact sports?

- Yes.
- Encourage good hygiene practices including handwashing before and after activities.

## Libraries

[\(back to index\)](#)

### 10. Are school libraries open?

- Yes.
- Library access should be managed to ensure supervisors/staff maintain physical distancing of 1.5 metres between adults, where possible and good hygiene practices are in place.

## Meetings on site

[\(back to index\)](#)

### 11. Can the P&C and School Board/Council meet on site?

- Yes.
- Members should stay at home if unwell.
- Maintain and promote good hygiene practices.
- Physical distancing of 1.5 metres between adults, where possible, applies to all meetings.
- Regular cleaning of all facilities used for meetings is required.
- Recording of visitors onsite continues as part of usual school operations.

### 12. Can other meetings, including staff meetings, occur on site?

- Yes.
- Maintain and promote good hygiene practices.
- Physical distancing of 1.5 metres between adults, where possible, applies to all meetings.
- Regular cleaning of all facilities used for meetings is required.
- Recording of visitors onsite continues as part of usual school operations.

## PEAC

[\(back to index\)](#)

### 13. Will PEAC operate during Phase 5?

- Yes.
- Supervisors/staff should maintain physical distancing of 1.5 metres between adults, where possible.
- Maintain and promote good hygiene practices.

## School music lessons

[\(back to index\)](#)

### 14. Can primary school students visit secondary school sites for music lessons that are taught by teachers from the secondary school or IMSS teachers?

- Yes, IMSS lessons can continue in Phase 5.
- Supervisors/staff should maintain physical distancing of 1.5 metres between adults, where possible.
- Promote good hand hygiene, sneezing and coughing etiquette.

## Swimming/therapy pools

[\(back to index\)](#)

### 15. Can we use our school swimming and therapy pools?

- Yes.
- Good hygiene practices apply and physical distancing of 1.5 metres between adults, where possible.

## Swimming programs

[\(back to index\)](#)

### 16. Will Interm swimming be able to be conducted?

- Yes. Swimming pools are open.
- Good hygiene practices apply and physical distancing of 1.5 metres between adults, where possible.
- Any questions related to interm swimming should be directed to the Swimming and Water Safety branch in Statewide Services.

### 17. Will VacSwim programs be delivered in December/January holidays?

- Yes. Swimming pools are open.
- Good hygiene practices apply and physical distancing of 1.5 metres between adults, where possible apply.

## Third-party arrangements

[\(back to index\)](#)

### 18. Can schools enter into third-party arrangements for use of school facilities?

- Yes.
- Regular cleaning of all facilities used for third-party arrangements is required.
- Good health and hygiene practices should be promoted and applied, and physical distancing of 1.5 metres between adults should be maintained, where possible.
- Recording of visitors onsite continues as part of usual school operations.

## Visitors to school sites

[\(back to index\)](#)

### 19. Can parents and carers enter the school with their child?

- Yes.
- Parents/carers should stay at home if unwell.
- Physical distancing of 1.5 metres between adults, where possible, and good hygiene practices should apply.
- Maintain messaging to parents and students during all school activities about:
  - Hygiene and hand washing.
  - Maintaining physical distancing where possible.
  - Staying home if you are unwell.

### 20. Who else is allowed on school sites?

- All visitors with an appropriate purpose are allowed onto the school grounds.
- Physical distancing of 1.5 metres between adults, where possible, and good hygiene practices should apply.
- All official visitors, as per Department guidelines, are required to sign in.
- Promote good hand hygiene, sneezing and coughing etiquette.

### 21. Can therapy services access schools? How can I ensure safety for staff and students if I have additional therapists on the school site?

- As the current level of COVID-19 cases is low, risk to students and staff is minimised with appropriate precautions in place. Precautions include the monitoring of public health advice, continuing physical distancing where possible, using hand and respiratory hygiene and staying home if unwell.
- Schools will continue to make a local decisions regarding the provision of therapy on their site.
- Principals should continue to liaise with therapy providers to ensure understanding of, and compliance with, school and Departmental policies and processes.
- The Department of Communities is aware that COVID-19 is having an impact on people with disabilities, their families and carers in WA. In the event disability related support is required, families may be referred to one of the following:
  - Families of children with disability who are receiving services from a disability sector organisation should reach out to the disability sector organisation if they require additional support as a result of the COVID-19 pandemic.
  - Families of children with disability connected to a Department of Communities (Communities) Local Coordinator can contact their Local Coordinator directly for assistance, or call (08) 6167 8000 or freecall 1800 998 214.
  - All other families of children with disability funded by Communities (Disability Services) can call (08) 6167 8000 or freecall 1800 998 214.
  - Families of children with disability connected to the National Disability Insurance Scheme (NDIS) and receiving support from a LAC Partner in the Community, can connect with their LAC Partner in the Community for assistance.
  - All other families of children with disability connected to the NDIS should call 1800 800 110.

## Work placements and work experience

[\(back to index\)](#)

### 22. Can work placements and work experience continue for students?

- Yes.
- Schools should conduct work placement risk assessments and ensure employers comply with WA COVID-19 Health guidelines.
- Continue to confirm that work environments have COVID-19 Safety Plans in place.