

COVID-19 Safety Plan

Salt Church
275 Keira Street, Wollongong

This COVID-19 Safety Plan has been prepared in line with the [NSW Public Health \(COVID-19 General\) Order 2021](#). It relates to 275 Keira Street Wollongong ('the building').

General Safe Health Guidelines

In line with NSW Health Guidelines, we ask anyone (adult or child) who is unwell or displaying possible COVID symptoms not to come to the building, but to remain at home and make use of our livestream. We will also continue to stream our gathering for those who may be part of a high-risk demographic, and for those who do not feel comfortable regathering in person yet. Our livestream gatherings can be viewed at: www.youtube.com/saltchurch

General Statement on Use of the Building

All gatherings and events in the building are open to vaccinated and unvaccinated people. No attendees will be required to present proof of vaccination status when entering or using the building. All people are welcome to fellowship with us. Users of the building will be required, though, to follow a number of COVID-19 safe practices that we have implemented to keep members and visitors safe, and to reduce the risk of transmission. Those practices and requirements are set out in the rest of this Safety Plan.

Capacity Limits

There are no NSW Health Covid-related density or capacity limits for our building, so instead we will follow the Council's fire-safety maximum numbers that our building is registered for.

Next Gen: A ministry leader will monitor room numbers and redistribute children to another space if overcrowding occurs.

Cleaning

We will clean frequently used areas with disinfectant (including wiping surfaces) prior to each gathering or event. Hand sanitiser will be provided at the door and near any food we serve. We will ensure bathrooms are well stocked with hand soap and paper towels. Disinfectant solutions will be maintained at an appropriate strength and used in accordance with the manufacturer's instructions. Staff and volunteers will wash hands before and after cleaning, with soap and water.

Next Gen: All rooms have hand sanitiser available. All leaders and participants will be encouraged to clean their hands at the start/end of the program and before/after eating. Kids toys and high touch surfaces will be cleaned with disinfectant after each kids' program.

Check-in & Record Keeping

All attendees at gatherings or events will be required to check-in when entering the building, using the QR code linked to the Service NSW App. For those who are unable to use this app, we will have a paper form to record their name and mobile number. These records will be kept digitally in a secure location on the Salt Church file server, and will be used for COVID-19 contact tracing if required.

Next Gen: Parents will check-in their children at a central sign-in desk with adequate space to allow social distancing and clean pens. As parents drop-off and pick-up children from programs we will encourage them to maintain social distancing. We will record attendance of all children at programs and gatherings in the building. These records will be kept digitally in a secure location on the Salt Church file server, and will be used for COVID-19 contact tracing if required.

Food and Drink

When we serve food (snacks or meals) and drinks we will ensure it is delivered safely by: having hand sanitiser accessible near all food and drink areas, serving snack food in individual portions, and organising designated people to serve meals rather than self-service.

Next Gen: Families are encouraged to bring a labelled fruit/ vegetable snack and water bottle for their child, with allergy friendly snacks where necessary. Where food is provided by Salt Church, we will serve it in individual serving portions and discourage children from sharing their food.

Masks

We will require people to wear face masks whilst in the building,, as per the current NSW Health regulations. We will have masks available free of charge for those who do not have one.

Next Gen: We will make face masks available for any children who wish to wear a face mask.

Physical Distancing

We will encourage attendees of the building to maintain a 1.5m physical distance with others outside their household.

Next Gen: Physical distancing between children is not required under Australian HPPC guidelines.

Staff

Staff have been provided with information and training on COVID-19, including when to get tested, current restrictions, cleaning and safety requirements, and use of the Service NSW App. This has been communicated to staff through emails and ongoing staff meetings. Staff are aware of their leave entitlements if they are sick or are required to self-isolate.

Ventilation

We have improved ventilation and air-circulation in the building by installing new fans.

Vaccination

We realise vaccination is a complex issue and may raise concerns for some of us. We encourage everyone to make a decision about vaccination that is appropriate for them and their situation. There is diversity in our church family on this matter, but we are still united in Christ.

All events and gatherings in the building are open to vaccinated and unvaccinated people. No attendees will be required to present proof of vaccination status when entering or using the building. All people are welcome to fellowship with us.

Next Gen: We're so thankful for the many people who serve with young people in our Next Gen ministries at Salt. Serving young people carries some specific requirements to help keep them safe, such as godliness, experience, Safe Ministry Training and Working With Children Checks. We've developed a Vaccination policy specific to our Next Gen ministries.

Current NSW Health advice recommends COVID-19 vaccinations to help reduce the spread and severity of COVID-19 infection. In light of this advice, we are asking all adults who serve in Next Gen roles to be fully vaccinated before serving face to face with kids and youth, or to share an appropriate medical exemption. We think this will help keep kids safe and build confidence for our community to visit and gather with our church. We will apply this policy to our Next Gen ministries from 18 Oct until 6 Feb and review at that time.

For members of Salt who are unable to serve in Next Gen ministries because of this policy, we will encourage and support them to find other ways to serve and get involved in our Church community so that we can build our Church up in love.

If you have any questions or concerns about anything in this COVID-19 Safety Plan, please don't hesitate to get in touch with myself or any of our staff to talk more.

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