

Stage School Australia Return to Class - Covid-19 Plan 2020

The safety of all our students and staff is paramount, and we are working very closely with all our schools to ensure that proper social distancing, class sizes, cleaning and pickup/dropoff protocols are developed and adhered to according to the Victorian Government DHHS regulations. Many of these procedures will already be familiar from your children's regular school attendance such as ensuring students undertake frequent hand-washing/sanitising and parents/guardians needing to follow drop off procedures at your venue. Information specific to each venue will be provided to Stage School families as part of the return to class communications which may include adjusted pick up/drop off times and locations to ensure non-contact class transitions and allow time for high-touch cleaning between sessions.

Please ensure that the parent/guardian doing the dropoff and all children participating in classes are in good health and not displaying any flu-like symptoms before attending. If you or your child feel unwell, please refrain from visiting a Stage School venue until you are recovered.

Below are the general procedures which will be followed at all Stage School Australia venues by staff and students, and we appreciate your help and cooperation to ensure these are adhered to for everyone's safety.

Arrivals and Dismissals from Venues

We request only one parent/guardian to be responsible for the student at pick-up/drop offs. Please arrive as close to the arrival/dismissal time as possible and request that you do not congregate outside the venue. Please drop off your child and maintain the proper 1.5m physical distancing between parents/guardians, students and staff around the school.

Additional lighting and directional signage will be displayed at the venue at the specified pick-up/dropoff location(s). This will differ between venues subject to the host school's requirements and may be at the school gates or at the entrance to specific buildings. This will be outlined in communications to families specific to your location.

In keeping with our regular arrival/dismissal procedures, the Site Manager or other authorised Stage School Australia staff member will be checking and recording each student's arrival and dismissal from your venue's specified pick-up/dropoff location in the school grounds.

If the parent/guardian is running late for a drop-off/pickup and there is no Stage School staff member at the designated arrival/dismissal zone, please do not enter the school beyond this specified area. Contact your Site Manager to arrange for a staff member to come out to meet you and your child. [Site Manager contact details](#) can be found in the Member's section of the Stage School website. Late pickup fees may apply as per the enrolment terms and conditions.

Physical Distancing, Cleaning and Personal Hygiene

Class start/end times will be amended, if necessary, to minimise contact between students during arrivals and dismissals and class transitions where possible. Stage School staff have been instructed to maintain 1.5m distance between themselves, students and parents/guardians.

Curriculum has also been adapted to promote physical distance between students and reduce vocal projection during class activities.

All venues are equipped with hand sanitiser and we will require all students and staff to use before entering class and after toilet breaks.

All spaces within the venues will be cleaned by the host school before Stage School students arrive. High touch cleaning of surfaces such as doorknobs will take place between sessions and a full clean will be undertaken after Stage School students leave for the night.

We remind all parents/guardians and students to maintain their own good hygiene practice including bringing your own, full and labelled water bottle, limiting contact with others (no hugs or handshakes, elbow bumps only please), avoid touching your face and mouth. If you do need to sneeze or cough, please do so into your elbow, place any used tissues dispose of immediately into the bin and sanitise your hands.

Staying Covid-Safe – Communication is Key

Attendance rolls will be maintained to contact trace should any issue arise at a venue. Student and parent/guardian contact details will be provided to government agencies only if requested and as required by law. [Click here](#) to view Stage School's updated Privacy Policy. We also encourage parents and students to download the Australian Government's Covid-Safe App.

If your child feels unwell with any Covid-19 symptoms while in our care we will be contacting you to come and collect your child immediately and to follow all the necessary health guidelines.

If you or your child is diagnosed with Covid-19 after attending a Stage School location, please contact the Head Office immediately on (03) 8199 8344 or admin@stageschool.com.au.

If a student or Stage School staff member is diagnosed with Covid-19 at a specific location, will we advise those families and staff members by SMS and email to self-isolate and get tested. We will advise the outcome of any shutdown period at the location for deep cleaning and when classes can safely resume.

Any students or staff members who contract Covid-19 cannot return to the class until they have been cleared by a doctor.

How any school closures due to a confirmed Covid-19 case, government lockdown or student non-attendance due to illness affects fees will be outlined in a separate communication regarding your specific return to class details.

Stage School Australia takes our responsibility in returning to performing arts classes seriously and appreciate your patience and understanding. As this situation is continually evolving, we will do everything within our power to abide by all government regulations and to keep families informed so we can all work together to ensure children can safely return to the activities they enjoy.