

20 August 2021



All Residents staying in Campus Residences

COVID-19: UPDATED SAFE MANAGEMENT MEASURES IN HALLS, RESIDENTIAL COLLEGES AND RESIDENCES

Dear Residents

Please note the following updated guidelines for residents staying in Halls, Residential Colleges and Residences. These supersede earlier circulars regarding the measures and will take effect from Friday, 20 August 2021. This document should also be read in conjunction with the latest government and university advisories and regulations.

1. Residents should
 - a. wear a mask when they leave their hostel rooms or when in a room with another person.
 - b. maintain a default of at least 1m safe distancing at all times.
 - c. comply with health status declaration and other measures found in the [updated OSHE Circular 30 \(OSHE 034/21\)](#). Currently, this includes health declaration once a day while on campus (excluding days staying off campus).
 - d. download and use mobile apps as prescribed by the University, including the Trace Together and uNivUS apps.
 - e. seek medical attention promptly if unwell and comply with instructions given; they should inform hostel authorities (Hostel Master and office administrators) if they have been instructed to self-isolate or be placed on quarantine as a result of contact tracing, medical advice or for any other reason. They should subsequently update hostel authorities on any change in their status.
 - f. take necessary precautions with respect to hand and environmental hygiene.
2. Residents must inform hostel authorities (Hostel Master and office administrators) if they have been put under the Ministry of Health's (MOH's) Health Risk Warning (HRW) or Health Risk Alert (HRA)
 - a. residents who have been put under HRW will be placed on Approved Absence (AA)/ Leave of Absence (LOA), and will only be allowed to return to campus after their exit Polymerase Chain Reaction (PCR) swab test result is negative.
 - b. residents who have been put under HRA will be able to return to campus but should limit their social interactions as an added precaution, monitor their health and see a doctor promptly if they feel unwell.

3. Residents are strongly encouraged to be vaccinated against COVID-19. Vaccination is one way to prevent the disease, minimise the risk of transmission, and prevent our healthcare system from being overwhelmed.

Residents who have not registered their interest in vaccination may do so via www.vaccine.gov.sg, and they will be progressively invited to book their vaccination appointments.

4. **Use of Common Spaces within the Hostel for Organized Student Activities**

Residents participating in organized student activities should comply with the following guidelines:

- a. Group activities should be limited to mask-on activities only, except where removal of masks is permitted under NUS' regulations for Sports/CCA or otherwise specified. See also 4(e) below.
- b. Such activities may take place in groups of up to 5 people, regardless of vaccination status.
- c. The maximum number of people within any space (e.g. lounges, kitchen/pantries, laundry rooms, small study rooms) should be limited based on the size of the space and will be specified by the hostel.
- d. For mask-on low-risk activities conducted in larger spaces (e.g. communal or multi-purpose halls), no more than 50 persons should be present at any time, with at least 1m spacing between groups of 5. For sport and other dynamic activities (including dance) held in these spaces, please refer to the appropriate NUS CCA guidelines referenced in section 7 below.
- e. Dining or consumption of food/drink/snacks is considered a mask-off activity and specific measures apply (see section 6 below).

5. **Hosting and Visitors**

- a. Residents may host up to 2 residents of the same hostel in their room, provided
 - i. all persons are vaccinated.
 - ii. no more than 3 people (*including the host*) are present in the resident's room or living area in a suite at any time.
 - iii. masks are worn at all times¹ and 1m safe distance is maintained.
- b. Only NUS (staff/student) visitors are allowed in the hostel, provided this is limited to 2 unique visitors per resident per day. Visitors should remain in common areas, and masks worn at all times¹.

6. **Dining-in at the Hostel**

- a. Dining in dining halls/kitchenettes/suite common areas is permitted in groups of up to 5 people, provided all 5 are fully vaccinated.
- b. Individuals who are unvaccinated are permitted to dine in these locations in groups of up to 2 people. For their own health and safety, unvaccinated diners are

¹ All hostel residents should avoid unmasking (e.g. to eat or drink) during social interactions. At all times, residents should mask up when not in the process of eating or drinking, even if food or beverage is at hand.

- strongly encouraged to dine alone.
- c. There should not be more than 50 persons in the dining halls at any one time, with *at least* 1m safe distancing between groups, and other necessary safe management measures in place, including 1m distancing within persons in the group wherever possible.
 - d. All hostel residents should mask up when not consuming food and beverage and leave the dining hall immediately after finishing their meals and not linger.

7. **Sporting and CCA Activities**

Please comply with the [updated OSA circular](#) (OSA/2021/12) on SMM guidelines for the conduct of co-curricular activities.

Note that changes to these measures may be necessary in response to the situation in the community as well as to the outcome of ongoing surveillance activities such as fast-and-easy (FET) testing and wastewater sampling.

The updated sanctions framework for non-compliance with the above guidelines can be found in the demerit point structure document on the [OSA housing regulations website](#). Please note that students who repeatedly or egregiously breach the guidelines may also be referred to the Board of Discipline.

Thank you for your efforts to keep campus residences safer for all.

Office of Student Affairs