NUS Hostelites

COVID-19: UPDATED SAFE MANAGEMENT MEASURES IN HOSTELS

Dear Residents

Please note the following updated guidelines for residents staying in Halls, Houses, Residential Colleges and Residences. These measures will supersede earlier circulars and take immediate effect. This document should also be read in conjunction with the latest government and university advisories and regulations, in particular, ORMC Circular 5 (Ref: ORMC 005/22).

In line with national posture, we encourage hostelites to exercise personal and social responsibility to minimise risk of COVID-19 spread in the community.

1. Residents are reminded to upload their health protocol status to uNivUS if they are on P1, P2 or have received Health Risk Notice (P3) and to observe all the requirements of these protocols (www.covid.gov.sg). Measures for close contacts who have not yet received the HRN will continue to apply. Hostels will continue to monitor the situation, support students needing to self-test or be isolated, and take necessary measures to respond to any spike in cases.

2. FET and Vaccination Related Matters

   a. With effect from 4 April 2022, the mandatory Fast and Easy Testing (FET) using Antigen Rapid Tests will no longer be needed for vaccinated staff and students. Last date of uploading the FET result onto uNivUS is 3 April 2022 for vaccinated residents.

   b. Unvaccinated residents are reminded to do the FET test every Sunday and Wednesday, and upload the results onto uNivUS as per ORMC Circular 5.

   c. All residents must declare their vaccination status in uNivUS if they have not already done so as per ORMC Circular 3 (Ref: ORMC 003/2022). Otherwise, residents will be regarded as unvaccinated individuals. Residents are to declare overseas vaccination as per OSHE Circular 39.

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1 Hostel residents on P1 or P2 who remain ART positive after D7 (vaccinated students) or D14 (unvaccinated students) may leave their rooms for essential activities (e.g. exams) outside of the hostel. While in the hostel, they should minimize social interactions and limit this to mask-on activities for short periods of time. They should also continue to consume meals individually in their own rooms.
3. **Use of Common Spaces within the Hostel for CCAs and Student Activities**

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

a. **Indoor Mask-on activities.** Venue-based caps on numbers and safe distancing requirements are lifted for indoor mask-on activities in hostels. Food and beverage are allowed during these activities, but these must be consumed in groups of 10 or fewer, with no intermingling; and mask-wearing resumed as soon as possible.

b. **Outdoor activities.** Wearing of masks is encouraged but not mandatory in outdoor spaces of the hostel.

   I. **Outdoor mask-off activities.** No more than 50 participants are allowed, regardless of vaccination status. Large-scale (>50 person) events should comply with guidelines given in Annex B of ORMC Circular 5.

   II. For safety, masks should be mandated for outdoor events involving a large number of participants or spectators (e.g. sporting competitions) where it is not feasible to maintain safe distance of **1m between individuals (wherever possible)** or groups.

c. **Sports and other dynamic activities.** In addition to the guidelines on group size and participant limits above, sports and other dynamic activities held in these spaces should adhere to the other SMMs detailed in **SportSG’s latest advisory.**

d. **Voice Training, speech and drama, singing and playing of wind and brass instruments.** In addition to the guidelines on group size and participant limits above, these activities held in these spaces should adhere to the other SMMs detailed in **NAC’s prevailing advisory.**

4. **Hosting and Visitors**

   a. Residents can interact in groups of up to 10 people:

      i. Masks should be worn whenever indoors.

      ii. Up to 5 people (*including the host*) may be present in the resident’s room or up to 10 people (*including the host*) may be present in the living area in a suite at any time.
b. Each hostel resident can host up to 10 unique visitors per day (including individuals from outside NUS) provided:
   i. all external visitors will need to either be (i) vaccinated, (ii) medically Ineligible or (iii) recovered from COVID in the last 180 days.
   ii. the host must check the vaccination status of the visitors before allowing them to enter the campus.
   iii. all external visitors must check in with Trace Together- Safe Entry (TTSE) for the purpose of contact tracing and checking of vaccination status prior to entry.

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

   a. Dining-in at dining halls: up to 10 diners per group for fully vaccinated individuals (who are not subject to protocols 1, 2 or 3) are allowed, with 1m safe distancing between groups. Only takeaway option is available for unvaccinated individuals.

   b. Dining in kitchenettes/suite common areas: up to 10 diners are allowed provided all are fully vaccinated.

   c. All hostel residents should mask up when not consuming food and beverage, and avoid intermingling between groups when masks are off.

   d. Large-scale (>50 person) events involving dining (e.g. formal dinners) should comply with guidelines given in Annex B of ORMC Circular 5.

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

Office of Student Affairs