

COVID Safety Plan For Schools

(Version 6.1 Updated 30/10)



For the safety of all our guests during the COVID-19 pandemic we have had to implement some temporary changes that impact our group bookings. Please read below to find out how we are minimizing risk to all staff and guests at our attraction.

CASHLESS: Our COVID safety changes have included moving to cashless purchasing, so we are now accepting **cards only onsite in our retail store and café. All school groups will be invoiced after their visit.**

ALL SCHOOL SELF GUIDED AND GROUP EXCURSIONS – SEALIFE Melbourne is currently offering self-guided tours and limited numbers of Guided tours to all Primary and Secondary schools who have gained proper consent of their principal and can comply with our current conditions of entry.

- Fully fitted face masks to be worn indoors for all visitors over 12 years. (Unless a medical exemption applies)
- All visitors (over the age of 16) must be able to provide proof of **full vaccination** against the COVID 19 virus. (Unless a medical exemption applies.)
- All visitors over the age of 16 are to check in using the QR code provided upon arrival.
- A full list of students (under 16 years) that have attended the facility including contact details to be supplied **upon request** if the facility is deemed a COVID exposure site. This information will be held securely by Aquarium staff and disposed of confidentially 14 days after request.

As always, the above information is subject to change depending on current government advice and regulations. You are welcome to contact our education team if you have any question or queries: education@melbourneaquarium.com.au

COVID Safe Plan *Please note that all Aquarium staff onsite are fully vaccinated.*

On Arrival at SEA LIFE Melbourne

We have significantly reduced ticket capacity to allow for social distancing and the best possible guest experience.

We are closed to the public on Tuesdays and Wednesdays and allowing limited School's only visits on these days at a reduced capacity.

As per the updated Education Department regulations more than one school may be onsite at the same time as of our reopening on the 5/11/2021 – your booked session may overlap with another Guided or Self-Guided group. We will do our best to limit interaction between these groups during Guided Education sessions.

Guests will notice new information signage informing them of key safety messages and instructions.

ARRIVE ON TIME - Due to strict capacity restrictions that ensure our guests can socially distance we require all groups to arrive on time for their selected time slot. If a group is late for their session we cannot guarantee entry into a later time allocation, so please make sure to plan your trip carefully and allow enough time to arrive for your allocated timeslot.

Please note there is no entry into the Aquarium BEFORE or AFTER the excursion session time.

All students under 16 must be accompanied by an adult at all times during the entire visit.

Self guided Groups

Self-guided groups are asked to wait outside the main entrance to the Aquarium until the allocated session time as confirmed on the booking form. We ask that the head teacher in charge of the excursion go to the front reception to confirm numbers and then our staff will be able to assist you in bringing students inside and checking in.

- All visitors over the age of 16 will be asked to check in with our QR code and provide proof of Vaccination upon entry.
- To ensure smooth movement throughout the Aquarium, please ensure students are broken up **into small groups with an accompanying adult.**

Guided Croups

Guided groups will be met by a member of our Education team for their allocation session time at the **Kings St School's** entrance.

- Once you have arrived we will confirm final numbers with a member of our team to ensure an accurate invoice.
- Check in using the provided QR code system and provide us with confirmation of vaccination status for visitors over 16 years.
- Store bags and belongings in lockers provided.

Teacher to Student Ratio's for Self-Guided and Guided Tours

	Ratio (including teachers)
Preschool	1 adult to 3 students
Primary / Secondary / Tertiary	1 adult to 10 students
Student Assistants/ Carers/ Aides	1:1 adult to student

Social distancing measures within our attraction:

- We have introduced new arrangements for the application of social distancing within queues. Clear markers or signage has been installed in our building entries and viewing areas to help guests keep a safe distance from one another.
- Our employees will monitor the queues to ensure that social distancing is being maintained. Please assist us by keeping your student groups small and always accompanied by an adult.
- We have installed new hygiene screens at our service counters to help physically separate guests from employees.
- We have revised some of our standard operating protocols to reduce the proximity of our employees to guests.
- There are QR check in stations at all entrances to the Aquarium.

Hygiene and disinfection measures within our attraction:

- We have introduced enhanced cleaning measures, throughout the day, which seek to disinfect high-frequency touch points, such as tables and chairs, service counters, grab and flush handles, door handles/plates, elevator buttons and taps.
- We have introduced new deep cleaning measures in the event that a person presents themselves with symptoms consistent with COVID-19.

- We have introduced a large number of hygiene stations/hand sanitiser dispensers around the attraction for guests to use.
- We have introduced new Personal Protective Equipment (PPE) requirements for a range of activities that employees routinely perform. These include face masks, disposable gloves, eye protection and hand sanitiser. The use of such equipment and clothing by our employees is both to protect them and our guests.
- As with our employees, we politely request that all our guests uphold the highest possible hygiene standards – whether it be when sneezing or coughing, through regular hand washing or the frequent application of hand sanitiser.
- Our employees now participate in COVID-19 specific training programmes instructing them how to stay safe as well as how to keep our guests safe.

RISK ASSESSMENT: Should a school require a copy of our risk assessment an update will shortly be available on our website.

A copy can be emailed to you, please contact the Education Team at education@melbourneaquarium.com.au .