

5 August 2021

Current Covid-19 Restrictions

A summary of the current Covid-19 restrictions for the **ACT** are as follows:

Venue Capacity

For Places of Worship, Weddings and Funerals:

- Each venue can have up to 25 people
- If you wish to have more than 25, you can have 1 person per 2 square metres of usable space, and must have a Covid Safety Plan.
- A sign must be displayed at the entrance (to the building, and to each usable space) specifying how many people are allowed, and signs reminding people to stay home if unwell must be displayed. See Signs and Fact Sheets for resources.

<https://www.covid19.act.gov.au/signs-and-factsheets>

Masks

Masks are only mandatory in the ACT whilst on domestic air travel and while in the Canberra airport.

Masks are recommended when you are unable to maintain physical distancing. You should also continue to follow the advice on mask wearing in high risk settings, such as hospitals, health facilities and residential aged care facilities.

Singing and music

Singing is allowed, however, please be aware of the following:

- Singing carries a high risk of transmission
- Choir numbers should be minimised. Choirs and performers should stay at least two metres away from the congregation, those conducting the service/event and a minimum of 1.5 metres from each other when singing.
- Minimise the number of musicians in each service. Musicians must stay at 1.5 metres away from the congregation, those conducting the service and, if possible, each other.
- Congregational singing is discouraged, but if you wish to sing it must be in your Covid Safety Plan and you must be 1.5m apart whilst singing

PRESBYTERIES

CANBERRA REGION

FAR NORTH COAST

GEORGES RIVER

ILLAWARRA

KOREAN

MACQUARIE DARLING

MID NORTH COAST

NEW ENGLAND NORTH WEST

PARRAMATTA NEPEAN

RIVERINA

SYDNEY CENTRAL COAST

SYDNEY

THE HUNTER

UAICC

Other advice for places of worship

- Avoid using collection plates and other shared equipment during services.
- Limit the use of books, if possible.
- Clean any shared equipment and books between each use.
- Keep the number of church leaders and others involved in the service to a minimum and ask them to remain physically distanced
- Encourage physical distancing of 1.5 metres between each group or household
- Manage the flow of people to promote physical distancing, particularly where people enter and leave the place of worship.
- Increase the frequency of cleaning for high touch areas and restroom facilities.

Weddings

Dancing is allowed at weddings but is not encouraged. Consider limiting dancing to the wedding party only. (See Covid Safety Plan below).

Check In CBR app

Businesses (including Places of Worship) must be registered and using the [Check In CBR app](#):

- Everyone 16 years and older must check in (parents and caregivers should be encouraged to check children in)
- Businesses must take all reasonable steps to ensure everyone checks in
- If patrons don't have a smart phone, the business can check them in through the business profile function

Covid Safety Plan

- All Places of Worship with a capacity greater than 25 must have a Covid Safety Plan
- All Weddings and Funerals require a Safety Plan
- Signs to be displayed at entry advising maximum numbers and advising patrons to stay home if unwell

Travel

ACT Health asks all people in the ACT to reconsider travel at this time. If you need to travel, please refer to the following site for the most updated advice and be aware that this information may change from time to time. There are restrictions currently in place for people who are entering or returning to the ACT who have been in certain hotspots. Please [check the public health advice in the state or territory](#) that you are visiting or travelling from.

<https://www.covid19.act.gov.au/travel>

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Uniting Church
SYNOD OF NSW & ACT

COVID-19

GUIDANCE NOTE

GUIDANCE NOTE 36

As always...

- Maintain 1.5 metre physical distancing (except for members of the same household)
- Practice healthy hand hygiene
- Practice healthy respiratory hygiene
- Stay home if unwell
- Get tested if you have even mild Covid-19 symptoms

Information has been sourced from:

<https://www.covid19.act.gov.au/business-and-work/business-and-work/weddings-funerals-worship>

If you have any queries, please contact: covid19@nswact.uca.org.au or John Squires - johns@nswact.uca.org.au

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Rev. Bronwyn Murphy
Associate Secretary

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