

# COVID-19

## GUIDANCE NOTE

21 December 2020

### Additional Covid-19 Restrictions

*This note has been amended following publication of new Public Health Orders. Changes are in underlined italics below.*

#### Restrictions for Northern Beaches residents, businesses and visitors

New restrictions apply to the Northern Beaches local government area, with stay at home orders in place until 11:59pm on Wednesday, 23 December 2020. The Public Health (COVID-19 Northern Beaches) Order 2020 can be seen [here](#).

A guide to the changes can be seen on the NSW Health website <https://www.nsw.gov.au/covid-19/what-you-can-and-cant-do-under-rules/northern-beaches>

Some key restrictions that are in place include the following, from 5pm Saturday, 19 December 2020, until 11:59pm on Wednesday, 23 December 2020 Northern Beaches residents **must stay at home**, unless you have a reasonable excuse. A reasonable excuse includes:

- shopping for food or other goods and services
- medical care or compassionate needs
- exercise
- work or education, where you cannot work or learn from home.

**Places of worship** are closed except for funeral services of no more than 100 people, including the person conducting the service. (Weddings were allowed until the end of 20 December 2020.)

A **minister** may leave their place of residence to go to a person's place of worship or to provide pastoral care.

You **must not enter** the Northern Beaches unless you have a reasonable excuse. A reasonable excuse includes to attend a funeral that complies with the *Public Health (COVID-19 Northern Beaches) Order 2020*.

**Community halls** are closed.

A person must not participate in a **public gathering** that is more than 2 people. This rule does not apply to a gathering for a funeral, which is subject to a limit of 100 people.

These restrictions apply to the Northern Beaches <https://www.northernbeaches.nsw.gov.au/council/about-northern-beaches-council/wards-and-suburbs>

### 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

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### Restrictions for Greater Sydney, Blue Mountains, Central Coast and Wollongong

Residents across Greater Sydney should limit unnecessary activity.

The following restrictions were introduced from 11:59pm, Sunday 20 December 2020 for the Greater Sydney region (including the Blue Mountains), Central Coast and Wollongong:

- Household gatherings will be limited to 10 visitors (until 11:59pm Wednesday 23 December).
- The one person per four square metre rule will be re-introduced for all indoor settings including **places of worship**.
- A cap of 300 people will apply for **places of worship**, subject to the 4 Square metres rule, and hospitality venues.
- **Singing** and chanting at indoor venues ~~will not be allowed~~ is restricted, returning for indoor venues to:
  - a maximum of 5 performers [choir] indoors, provided they are 1.5 metres from one another and
  - performers [choir] are at a distance of least 5 metres from the audience, who are not allowed to sing along.
- Dancefloors will not be permitted, except for weddings, when a maximum of 20 from the bridal party will be permitted.

The Local Government Areas impacted by these restrictions are listed [here](#).

The amended Public Health (COVID-19 Restrictions on Gathering and Movement) Order (No 7) 2020 can be seen [here](#).

NSW Health strongly encourages people to wear face masks indoors.

The Synod strongly recommends the congregations consider a return to zoom or live streaming worship and fellowship services at this time.

### Restrictions for other areas in NSW and the ACT

Restrictions in other areas remain as previously advised.

The ACT government has issued a new Public Health Direction from 11.59am on 18 December 2020 requiring those who had been in the Northern Beaches and returned to the ACT to self-quarantine for 14 days from the date they were there.

Please continue to monitor the NSW Government website <https://www.nsw.gov.au/covid-19> and the ACT Government website <https://www.covid19.act.gov.au/> as the situation is fluid.

For further information, please contact [covid19@nswact.uca.org.au](mailto:covid19@nswact.uca.org.au)

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