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15 June 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 15 June 2021 with specific measures taking effect from 21 June 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<sup>1</sup>.
  - b. maintain a default of at least 1m safe distancing at all times.
  - c. comply with online health and temperature declaration requirements prescribed by the University (*including days that they are staying off campus*). **The current requirement is to declare twice a day.**
  - 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 if they have been tested for COVID-19. They should report the results of their COVID-19 test results immediately to hostel authorities.
  - f. take necessary precautions with respect to hand and environmental hygiene.
2. Social interactions between residents of the same hostel should comply with the following guidelines:
  - a. The current size of group gatherings allowed will be increased from *two* people to *five* people.
  - b. Residents are strongly encouraged to interact with the same group of up to *five* residents and avoid mingling with other groups where possible.
3. Residents may host another resident of the same hostel in their room, provided
  - a. no more than *two* people (*including the host*) are present in the resident's room at any time.
  - b. no more than *five* people (*including the host*) are present in the living area in a suite at any time, and
  - c. masks are worn at all times<sup>1</sup> and 1m safe distance is maintained.
  - d. All residents are to limit the number of such social interactions to not more than *five* in a day.
4. Indoor sports facilities, gyms, dance studios and similar spaces in hostels will remain closed

before 21 June 2021. **From 21 June 2021, gyms and fitness/ dance/ exercise studios may resume indoor mask-off sports activities, subject to further guidelines to be issued in due course.**

5. When using other indoor common facilities and spaces within the hostel,
  - a. the maximum number of people within the space (e.g. kitchen/pantries, laundry rooms, small study rooms) should be limited based on the size of the space and will be specified by the hostel.
  - b. for larger spaces (e.g. communal or dining halls), no more than 50 persons should be present at any time.
  - c. Persons using these facilities should be segregated in groups of up to *five* persons; there should be at least 2m separation between each group, and masks should be worn at all times<sup>1</sup>.
  - d. When consuming food in the dining hall or any common space, residents are to sit ***individually*** and at least 2m apart from each other. All residents should avoid social interactions while eating, mask up when not consuming food and beverage and leave the dining hall/kitchen/pantry immediately after finishing their meals and not linger. **Updated on 18 June 2021: From 21 June 2021, dining in would be allowed in groups of no more than *two* persons, with at least 1m distancing between individuals.**
  
6. Non-resident visitors (*NUS staff or students only*) are allowed in common areas of the hostel premises (excluding resident's rooms) provided:
  - a. no more than *two* visitors may be hosted by a resident per day;
  - b. host and visitors comply with all measures aimed at allowing tracking in the event that a hostel wastewater sample tests positive. This includes keeping the uNivUS app turned on and complying with any additional measures instituted by the hostel. If swab testing is deemed necessary, visitors will be required to be tested as well;
  - c. masks are worn by all<sup>1</sup> and 1m safe distance is maintained.

Please be reminded that, as per current restrictions, non-NUS visitors are not allowed on hostel premises unless permission is granted by the Master in advance.

7. Please comply with the [updated OSA circular](#) 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 swab testing and wastewater sampling.*

The 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

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<sup>1</sup> 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.

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