

COVID-19 Safety Plan

1. Aims and rationale

This policy is targeted at inclusivity. We want everyone to feel safe and welcome in our rehearsal and performance spaces, including groups who are at greater risk of more serious illness with COVID-19. These include people who cannot be vaccinated, who have chronic medical conditions, who have compromised immune systems, Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander people 50 years and over, people 70 years and over, and other vulnerable persons.

With this in mind, we have devised this policy to minimise the risk of harm from COVID-19 during our operations. We also hope to reduce the risk of interruptions to future programs and the resulting disappointments to our singers, charity partners, audiences and other stakeholders, in the form of cancellations, similar to those we have experienced throughout 2021.

2. Vaccination

Vaccines are the only currently available means of reducing the severity of COVID-19 if transmission occurs. Moreover, there is [some evidence](#) to suggest that fully vaccinated persons are less likely than unvaccinated persons to acquire and transmit COVID-19. Given this, and in light of our aims above, **all persons attending rehearsals and/or performances with The Cooperative must have received 2 doses of COVID-19 vaccine, or present evidence of medical exemption from this vaccination.** We see this decision as fundamental to protecting you and other people in our spaces.

3. Safe Rehearsal Spaces

To prevent the introduction and spread of COVID-19, the following measures will be in place at all of our rehearsal and performance spaces:

- At least one COVID-19 Marshall will be in attendance at every rehearsal and performance.
- Sign in with the ServiceNSW app will be required upon arrival, to aid with contact tracing.
- Hand sanitiser will be provided at each rehearsal.
- All props and hard surfaces will be sanitised with alcohol-based wipes.
- Physical distancing of 1.5m will be encouraged where possible.
- We require the use of face masks in all indoor settings when the wearing of a mask does not inhibit the rehearsal process, or otherwise impede a person in the process of their work.

4. Attendance and Testing

To keep our creative space COVID-SAFE, you **MUST NOT** attend rehearsals or performances if:

- You are experiencing any symptoms such as a fever, sore throat, shortness of breath, fatigue, loss of sense of taste and smell;
- If you have attended a hotspot location listed by any public health authority (excluding LGAs); or
- If you should be self-isolating for any reason.

Furthermore, if you have met any of these criteria, you must provide a negative COVID test result before attending any rehearsal or performance.

The Cooperative will continue to monitor the Covid19 situation, and update these policies based upon further advice from the NSW Government and NSW Health, and in consultation with our venues.

**If you have any questions or concerns, please do not hesitate to contact us at:
theCooperativesydney@gmail.com**