

COVID Safe plan

Guidance on how to prepare your COVID Safe plan is available [here](#).

Our COVID Safe Plan

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*Response to COVID-19 pandemic at RBGV is guided by the COVID-19 Pandemic Response Framework, underpinned by the COVID-19 Action Plan and High Risk Occurrence (HRO) as routinely reported to RBG Board Risk Committee

Guidance	Action to mitigate the introduction and spread of COVID-19
Hygiene	
Provide and promote hand sanitiser stations for use on entering building and other locations in the worksite and ensure adequate supplies of hand soap and paper towels are available for staff.	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Hand sanitiser stations are established in key areas including entry to buildings, bathrooms, kitchen areas, entry gates and other tactile areas. Amenities are well stocked with soap and paper towels (or electric hand dryers). Instruction on how to wash and sanitise hands provided through posters and digital communications Hand sanitiser stations installed at entry to all public toilets. Hand sanitiser is available for staff, visitors and audiences to use at various locations throughout the Gardens Hand sanitiser is refilled regularly
Where possible: enhance airflow by opening windows and adjusting air conditioning.	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Air conditioning and/or open windows in use.
In areas where it is required, ensure all staff wear a face mask and/or required PPE, unless a lawful exception applies. Ensure adequate face mask and PPE are available to staff that do not have their own.	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Staff not required to wear a mask indoors, except when serving in RBGV Shops, (unless a lawful exception applies) or if physical distancing is not possible. It is highly recommended staff continue to wear a mask outdoors where physical distancing cannot be maintained Masks provided to all staff at workplace, including supply of cloth and disposable masks for use when required. Lawful exceptions identified and risk assessment undertaken to minimise exposure.
Provide training to staff on the correct use and disposal of face masks and PPE, and on good hygiene practices and slowing the spread of coronavirus (COVID-19).	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Training on correct use and disposal of face masks undertaken, as well as regular reinforcement of importance of maintaining good hygiene and physical distancing Importance of not attending workplace if unwell reinforced regularly through staff communications

Guidance	Action to mitigate the introduction and spread of COVID-19
Replace high-touch communal items with alternatives.	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Surface cleaning of small number of workstations shared across shifts occurs routinely • High touch communal items replaced with alternatives where possible

Guidance	Action to mitigate the introduction and spread of COVID-19
Cleaning	
High touch surfaces are cleaned and disinfected regularly	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • High touch surfaces being cleaned regularly, including kitchen areas, bathrooms, and office spaces. • Sanitiser available in all work spaces • Information provided to staff and visitors/ audiences about expectations on personal hygiene (hand washing, coughing into elbow, disposal of masks, etc)
Ensure adequate supplies of cleaning products, including detergent and disinfectant.	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Adequate cleaning supplies in place for all organisation activities including events and tours, walks and talks. • Stock levels actively managed.

Guidance	Action to mitigate the introduction and spread of COVID-19
Physical distancing, limiting workplace attendance and event/activity management	
<p>Workplaces are open to all fully vaccinated employees.</p> <p>No density limits in public spaces or workplaces. Masks not required in our office spaces. However, they must be worn in our Shops and Visitor Centres and by staff working in our food and beverage outlets. Carry a mask when you leave home.</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Garden open to visitors • Visitor Centre, retail shop open. • Restaurants, cafes and tenant operations operate to fully vaccinated (or under 12 years and 2 months or have a valid exemption) patrons with no density limits • Programs running with no density limits. Staff and contractors leading tours and programs are fully vaccinated. Audiences 16+ years to programs must be fully vaccinated and show proof of vaccination • All volunteer and Friends programs recommence for fully vaccinated volunteers with no density limits • Staff, contractors and volunteers to have received at least one vaccination and be fully vaccinated by 26 November 2021 unless a medical exemption applies • Field staff at full capacity on site • Office staff resume minimum three days per week (FTE) on site as confirmed with line manager. Well-being OHS checks routinely carried out for work from home employees.
Establish a system to screen employees and visitors / audiences before accessing the workplace. Employers cannot require employees to work when unwell.	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Employees and visitors are regularly notified of the requirement to not attend workplace / venue if they have any symptoms, or if they have been tested and are awaiting results. Information for visitors also available on the website. • Pre-event communication to visitors attending events and activities includes requirement for all audiences 16+ years to be fully vaccinated and request to not attend if they are unwell or have been instructed to isolate or quarantine. Details of refund policy included (ticketholders are refunded if unwell) • On the receipt of advice from health authorities, or from an individual, regarding a visit to an RBG site when infectious for COVID-19, RBGV will seek and follow the advice of DHHS with regard to any actions to be taken, including employee testing, isolation and site cleaning.

Guidance	Action to mitigate the introduction and spread of COVID-19
Configure communal work areas and promote physical distancing recommendation. Also consider installing screens or barriers.	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • <i>Minimum 1.5 m physical distancing recommendation promoted regularly to employees.</i>
Provide training to staff on physical distancing expectations while working and socialising (e.g. during lunchbreaks).	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • <i>Physical distancing requirements are regularly communicated through staff communications (posters, digital and face-to-face)</i>
Review delivery protocols to limit contact between delivery drivers and staff.	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • <i>Signage displayed at entry points for delivery drivers providing designated contact points.</i> • <i>Hand washing/sanitising after accepting deliveries, with minimal contact observed</i>
Develop protocols for crowd management and physical distancing on RBGV events, workshops and activities such as tours, walks and talks	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • <i>Signage and staggered entry and exit for maintaining social distancing in common areas e.g., food and beverage, bathrooms, merchandise sales, foyer etc are in place for events</i> • <i>Workshops for students in line with COVIDSafe settings</i> • <i>Designated gathering space for school bookings</i> • <i>Learning Facilitators and students of Year 3 - 6 to wear masks if in indoor settings.</i> • <i>Ensure events are compliant with the current Government restrictions and COVIDSafe settings at the time</i> • <i>Staff leading tours and programs are fully vaccinated. Audiences 16+ years must be fully vaccinated and show proof of vaccination.</i>
Apply COVID Safe settings to RBGV hospitality venues	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • <i>No density limits</i> • <i>QR code check-in and Full vaccination check for all patrons.</i> • <i>Masks to be worn by hospitality staff</i>

Guidance	Action to ensure effective record keeping
Record keeping	
Maintain record-keeping for ticketed programs and events	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • <i>Online ticketing system bookings and in person bookings at the Visitor Centre capture contact details including name and phone number and informs customers of the COVIDSafe expectations for the visit including requirement to confirm double vaccination status for 16+ years. Attendee contact details retained for 28 days after the event, after which, information should be destroyed, unless there is another statutory requirement for retention</i>
Provide guidance to staff on the effective use of the workplace OHS reporting system (where available).	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • <i>OHS incident reporting and register in place</i>

Guidance	Action to ensure COVIDSafe events and activities
Oversight and administration of events	
Establish a process to manage specific COVIDSafe procedures on small events and programs	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • <i>Public events planned with COVIDSafe Settings in place.</i> • <i>Individual programs (delivered by RBGV or contractors) such as talks, tours, school workshops have dedicated COVIDSafe Plans</i> • <i>Ensure that workers, including volunteers, vendors and contractors, understand and comply with COVIDSafe settings</i> • <i>All staff and contractors working on events are fully vaccinated</i> • <i>Contingency planning documented in the scenario that an event needs to be cancelled, including communicating the cancellation to patrons</i>

Guidance	Action to prepare for your response
Preparing your response to a suspected or confirmed COVID-19 case	
Prepare or update your business continuity plan to consider the impacts of an outbreak and potential closure of the workplace.	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • <i>Business continuity planning captured in the RBGV Pandemic COVID-19 Action Plan 2020-2022, including leadership structure, decision making, business reporting and response to the COVID-19 pandemic.</i>
Prepare to undertake cleaning and disinfection at your business premises. Assess whether the workplace or parts of the workplace must be closed.	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • <i>Cleaning requirements in place pending employee or visitor infection</i> • <i>Pandemic response structure in place to coordinate response to DHHS in case of infection</i>
Prepare for how you will manage a suspected or confirmed case in an employee during work hours, or if the employee is a household contact.	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • <i>If an employee is found to be COVID-19 positive, People and Culture will work with the employee to identify (if any) workplace contacts in line with the definitions provided by government</i> • <i>Known contacts will be called and advised that they should monitor for any symptoms and take a RAT every day for 5 days after notification.</i> • <i>There are no ongoing quarantine requirements, and the contacts may work on site if required.</i> • <i>However, if a RAT is positive or the contact develops symptoms, they must have a PCR test and isolate until they receive a negative result</i> • <i>Employees are notified of the requirement to not attend workplace if they have any symptoms, or if they have been tested and are awaiting results.</i> • <i>Cleaning requirements in place pending employee infection</i> • <i>Employees notified of the requirement to immediately alert line manager if symptoms develop whilst at work, and supported to go home immediately, or to isolate at work if returning home is not possible, and to arrange testing and self-isolation as soon as possible.</i> • <i>Appropriate areas to isolate staff members identified</i> • <i>Household contacts must quarantine for seven days</i>
Develop a process to manage a visitor or audience member who develops symptoms.	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • <i>Arrangements made to send the person home in suitable and safe private transport so the risk of potential coronavirus (COVID-19) transmission is reduced.</i> • <i>If the person cannot travel home identify an area where the person can remain in isolation until they are able to travel home</i>

Guidance	Action to prepare for your response
<p>Prepare to notify workforce and site visitors of a confirmed or suspected case.</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • <i>On the receipt of advice from health authorities, or from an individual, regarding a visit to an RBGV site when infectious for COVID-19, RBGV will seek and follow the advice of DHHS with regard to any actions to be taken, including employee testing, isolation and site cleaning.</i> • <i>Workforce communication channels in place to notify employees of confirmed case</i>
<p>Prepare to immediately notify WorkSafe Victoria on 13 23 60 if you have a confirmed COVID-19 case at your workplace.</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • <i>On the advice of WorkSafe Victoria (effective from 14 January 2022), it is no longer a requirement to provide WorkSafe notification for any employees testing positive to COVID-19. WorkSafe still must be notified if someone contracts COVID-19 or another disease at a workplace and requires immediate in-patient care or dies as a result.</i>
<p>Confirm that your workplace can safely re-open and workers can return to work.</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • <i>When an employee tests positive, they are required to isolate for a period of 7 days from the date they took the PCR test or Rapid Antigen Test which resulted in a positive outcome and is then, subject to them feeling well, able to return to work without the requirement for further testing.</i>

Acknowledgement. I understand my responsibilities and have implemented this COVID Safe plan in the workplace.



Tim Entwisle, 26 February 2022