

# COVID-19

## GUIDANCE NOTE

2 January 2021

### Covid-19 Restrictions for the New Year Period

The NSW Premier and the NSW Minister for Health have issued a new press release today outlining new restrictions in NSW. See [here](#) for the press release.

#### **Restrictions for Northern Beaches (Peninsula Zone) residents, businesses and visitors**

Restrictions apply to the Northern Beaches (Peninsula Zone), with stay at home orders in place until 9 January 2021.

A list of suburbs included in these restrictions, along with further information on what you can and cannot do, is on the NSW Government website <https://www.nsw.gov.au/covid-19/what-you-can-and-cant-do-under-rules/northern-beaches>

There are some specific restrictions to be aware of:

**Places of worship** are closed except for funeral services of no more than 100 people, including the person conducting the service

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.

#### **Restrictions for Greater Sydney residents, businesses and visitors (including Wollongong, Central Coast, Blue Mountains and Northern Beaches (Southern Zone))**

Residents across Greater Sydney (including Northern Beaches (Southern Zone), Central Coast, Wollongong and Nepean Blue Mountains) should limit unnecessary activity.

From midnight tonight, additional restrictions are in place:

- People cannot allow more than 5 visitors per day at their residence, including children.
- From Monday, 4 January 2021, face masks are mandatory in **places of worship**. Children under 12 are exempt but are encouraged to wear

### 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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masks where practicable. The Synod strongly recommends wearing of face masks from today.

- **Places of worship** and **religious services** limited to 1 person per 4sqm up to a maximum of **100 people** per separate area.
- **Weddings and funerals** limited to 1 person per 4sqm up to a maximum of **100 people**.
- Services, activities or events in separate areas of a place of public worship must not start or end at the same time.
- From 3 January, the 5 person visitor limit will apply to weddings, funerals, memorial services (or a gathering after a wedding or funeral or memorial service) **held at a place of residence**.

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

Restrictions in other areas remain as previously advised.

### Update for the ACT

Public health directions are currently in place requiring anyone who has been in Northern Beaches, Greater Sydney, Central Coast and Wollongong Local Government Areas to notify ACT Health of their intention to travel to the ACT.

Continue to check the travel advice for further updates as the situation is constantly changing.

ACT residents are advised not to travel to Northern Beaches, Greater Sydney, Central Coast and Wollongong LGAs until further notice

It is important to remember that COVID-19 is still circulating in the community, especially when you gather with family and friends over the holiday period.

Please continue to play your role in controlling the spread, by getting tested if symptoms develop, practising physical distancing and good hand hygiene, and by wearing a mask, particularly indoors.

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 continues to change quickly.

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

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