

FRSA and JCS overview of cleaning (updated 6/5/2020)

This document outlines the FRSA and JCS response to the cleaning, hygiene and physical distancing requirements published by the AHPPC and the Department of Education. (As these documents are updated, we will update this document).

In deciding on the FRSA/JCS response the Senior Leaders have been guided by the documentation published by the AHPPC, Department of Education (State and Commonwealth), AISWA and publications referenced by the Prime Minister and WA Premier.

Direction to each school:

Each school is to work with this document and ensure compliance with each aspect. We acknowledge that some statements will require interpretation at the local level. Variation in facilities and staffing will result in low level variations in how each Principal chooses to implement these agreed responses at their local school.

Social distancing for schools:

The question of social/physical distancing for schools has been a matter of significant community discussion in the past weeks. The most recent advice from the AHPPC (via the National Cabinet) is as follows

“AHPPC does not believe however, that the ‘venue density rule’ of no more than one person per four square metres is appropriate or practical in classrooms or corridors, nor maintaining 1.5 metre between students during classroom activities.” (Written statement from the Prime Minister dated 24/04/2020)

School Principals will keep this advice in mind as they implement the specific recommendations listed below.

Table 1. Response to the AHPPC advice on reducing the potential risk of COVID-19 transmission in schools (published 16 April 2020)

Part 1. Physical distancing

AHPPC Comment	Recommendation / Requirement	FRSA Response
adapting activities that lead to mixing between classes and years, including reduced use of common areas and reduced after-school and inter-school activities	Recommendation	Already implemented. Principals and teachers will continue to monitor and identify opportunities to minimise mixing between year levels
where possible, adding flexibility to the workday by staggering start and finish times, recesses, lunch breaks and other key transition times, when mixing may occur between classes and year-levels	Recommendation	It is difficult to stagger start and finish times for the schools as this would result in parents having to make multiple drop offs and pickups. Each individual school will decide if it is practicable to stagger recess and lunch breaks. Students will be supervised to access different parts of the playgrounds
where possible, avoiding close-proximity queuing and encouraging increased space between students, for example, by placing markings on the floor	Recommendation	Students do not queue (line-up) for entry to the classrooms
encouraging students to maintain 1.5m distance when entering or leaving a classroom	Recommendation	Students will be monitored and as much as possible kept physically distant from each other as they enter or leave classrooms.
cancelling school excursions, assemblies, sporting activities and other large gatherings	Requirement	All such events have been cancelled
where possible, conducting lessons outdoors or in environments with enhanced ventilation	Recommendation	There is limited opportunity to hold classes outside – heavily weather and resource dependent
where possible, arranging classroom furniture to leave as much space as possible between students	Recommendation	Classes have been (or will be) rearranged. Classrooms will be configured in a way that maximises the space between students. Where possible students (particularly in primary



		school) will be allocated a set desk, set chair and set equipment.
maintaining smaller classes	Recommendation	The JCS have no reasonable opportunities to reduce class sizes
suspending group work if the activity cannot be modified to avoid close physical proximity (1.5m)	Recommendation	Teachers will reduce group work that requires less than 1.5m proximity.
ceasing public access to playgrounds and high touch play equipment	Requirement	All playgrounds and high touch equipment are required to be cleaned after use.
teachers monitoring students during non-class times to ensure they are maintaining 1.5m physical distance	Recommendation	Students will be supervised during recess. Levels of supervision will be increased, and students will be frequently reminded to practise social distancing
teachers maintaining 1.5m physical distance from other adults in staff rooms	Requirement	Staff areas will have a maximum number of adults per area. If necessary, some staff offices will be relocated.
providing a mix of home- and campus-based education	Recommendation	Schools will provide a mix of face-to-face and school @ home – however we will prioritise only one form of delivery
student work being submitted electronically, where feasible	Recommendation	Where practicable students will submit their work electronically. We have limited opportunities for implementing this recommendation in the primary schools with greater opportunities in the middle and senior school
student work being handed to a teacher for feedback rather than feedback being provided immediately by the teacher in close proximity to the student	Recommendation	Where practicable this will be implemented however the most recent advice highlights the primary risk is from staff to staff not student to staff or student to student
encouraging non-contact greetings	Recommendation	All forms of physical contact (shaking hands, hugging etc) are banned



Part 2. Hygiene

AHPPC Comment	Recommendation / Requirement	FRSA Response
washing hands with soap and water for 20 seconds, or using hand sanitiser, when entering school, and at regular intervals throughout the day particularly before and after eating, and after going to the toilet	Requirement	Each school will make available appropriate access to hand washing facilities (i.e. soap and water). Hand sanitiser continues to be difficult to purchase (particularly in large quantities). Each school will develop specific (consistent) approaches to hand washing i.e. all students to wash hands prior to entering class after each recess.
covering coughs and sneezes with one's elbow or a tissue	Requirement	Students will be taught (if necessary) and reminded of this requirement. Tissues will be made widely available
placing used tissues straight into the bin	Requirement	Students will be reminded of this requirement.
avoiding touching one's eyes, nose and mouth	Recommendation	Students will be reminded of this recommendation.
not sharing food or drink	Requirement	Students will not be permitted to share food or drink
close all communal water fountains/bubblers	Requirement	All water fountains and bubblers have been closed for direct use. Students will be able to use the water fountains to fill up their water bottles. Parents will be requested to ensure that students have their own individual water bottle.
where relevant, promoting strictest hygiene amongst food preparation (canteen) staff and their close contacts	Requirement	All activities involving the preparation of food have been placed on hold. Cooking classes (and similar) in middle school will be reviewed and protocols implemented to manage the specific risks.
Mobile phones are regularly touched and breathed on. Use of mobile phones at school should be discouraged and if possible, restricted. Where mobile phones must be used, they should be cleaned regularly.	Requirement	Mobile phones are not permitted at school (for students)

Part 3. Environmental cleaning

AHPPC Comment	Recommendation / Requirement	FRSA Response
clean and disinfect frequently used high-touch surfaces such as benchtops, desks, doorknobs, taps, and hand rails at regular intervals throughout the day with a detergent solution or detergent/disinfectant wipes	Requirement	<p>Each school will implement specific routines to clean high-touch surfaces.</p> <p>Staff and students will be responsible for assisting in the implementation of the cleaning regime</p> <p>COVID-19 Cleaners will be employed at each School to assist with the elevated cleaning regime</p>
clean and disinfect frequently used objects such as computers, photocopiers and sports equipment with detergent solution or detergent/disinfectant wipes	Requirement	<p>Staff will ensure that frequently used objects are regularly cleaned before they are made available to students.</p> <p>In the case of computers – students will be provided with necessary cleaning products to wipe down their machines.</p> <p>COVID-19 Cleaners will be employed at each School to assist with the elevated cleaning regime</p>
in those jurisdictions where students are allowed to have mobile phones, schools should restrict access to mobile phones during the school day. Schools and jurisdictions can have the flexibility to make their own procedures around how to do this	Requirement	<p>Please see earlier comments regarding mobile phones – students are not permitted to access mobile phones while at school</p>
clean and disinfect any play equipment that has not been closed at the end of each recess and the end of the day	Requirement	<p>Staff will ensure that any play equipment used during the day will be appropriately cleaned.</p> <p>Fixed play equipment is out of bounds for all students</p> <p>COVID-19 Cleaners will be employed at each School to assist with the elevated cleaning regime</p>



increase the amount of fresh air available indoors by opening windows or adjusting air conditioning	Recommendation	As much as is possible windows will be opened and air conditioning switched on to promote ventilation. Staff will exercise their judgement in balancing the need for ventilation with managing an appropriate room temperature.
provide bins in every classroom for used tissues, and empty them regularly throughout the day	Requirement	Class bins will be emptied on a regular (daily or more frequent) basis
clean toilets after each recess and at the end of the day	Requirement	Toilets will be cleaned after each recess by COVID-19 Cleaners Toilets will be cleaned at the end of each day by the (regular) cleaning contractors.

Table 2. Response to the “Clean Schools and Worksites During COVID-19” published by the Department of Education (WA) - 23 April 2020

What to clean and disinfect

The normal daily cleaning process should continue but there needs to be an emphasis on cleaning high contact items and surfaces, using a detergent or disinfectant based cleaning product at regular intervals throughout the day (where practical every one to two hours). Leave disinfected surfaces to air dry.

Dept of Education Comment	Recommendation / Requirement	FRSA Response
<p>High contact items and surfaces include, but are not limited to:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • door handles • door frames • light switches • remote controls • tables • desks • cupboard doors • counters • hand rails • plastic chair armrests and shoulders • soap and hand towel dispensers • taps • drink troughs and fountains. 	Requirement	<p>COVID-19 Cleaners are responsible for cleaning these items throughout the day.</p> <p>Specific comments</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Students will be responsible for cleaning down their desk during the day and will be provided with appropriate cleaning materials to do so.
<p>In toilet areas and shower blocks or washrooms all touchable surfaces need cleaning with a detergent or disinfectant based product, especially:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • door handles and push plates • door locks • door frames • cisterns/flush buttons 	Requirement	<p>COVID-19 Cleaners are responsible for cleaning these items throughout the day.</p> <p>Cleaning will be done after each recess and either before school starts or after school finishes.</p>



<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • taps • washbasins • soap and towel dispensers. 		
<p>Computer keyboards and mice, and telephones should be cleaned frequently with either a disinfectant wipe or a detergent or disinfectant based product on a disposable cloth.</p>	Requirement	Staff and students will be provided with appropriate access to cleaning materials to wipe down keyboards, mice, telephones and similar high touch/high use equipment
<p>Soft furnishings such as fabric chairs and lounges can be cleaned using normal procedure.</p>	Requirement	<p>Staff and students will be provided with appropriate access to cleaning materials to spray or wipe down soft furnishings.</p> <p>Principals will direct COVID-19 Cleaners to spray soft furnishings in areas typically accessed by the public and in staff areas</p>
<p>Clean equipment or items that are used by multiple staff or students between use. This includes, but is not limited to:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • photocopiers • sporting equipment • play equipment • musical instruments • iPads. 	Requirement	<p>COVID-19 Cleaners or delegated staff are responsible for cleaning photocopiers, sporting equipment and play equipment throughout the day.</p> <p>iPads, musical instruments and similar devices/equipment will be cleaned by students prior to use.</p>
<p>Dishes and cutlery are to be cleaned in a commercial or domestic dishwasher using appropriate dishwasher detergents.</p>	Requirement	Staff responsible for washing dishes will comply with the required processes.
<p>Where playgrounds are required to remain accessible, the playground or play equipment should be cleaned using a cloth soaked in a detergent or disinfectant based cleaning product. This is to occur before school, after recess and after lunch.</p>	Requirement	<p>Playground equipment, where possible, will be out of bounds for students.</p> <p>Play equipment that is made available to students will be washed/cleaned as required by the COVID-19 Cleaners</p>