

Advice on swimming and sporting facilities

ISV has received the following information from the Department of Education and Training (DET). The DHHS Public Health Team and the Chief Health Officer has endorsed this advice.

The advice was provided to ISV on 2 June 2020.

Swimming and aquatic facilities

- It is recommended that schools do not use local swimming pools outside school grounds for school swimming programs at this time.
- Swimming pools and aquatic facilities on school grounds can be used, with the following safety measures in place:
 - ▶ Only one class group of students should use the pool at a time
 - ▶ All students must shower with soap and water prior to using the pool
 - ▶ Use of the changing facilities should be staggered to limit the number of students occupying the changing rooms at one time
 - ▶ Changing facilities need to be cleaned a minimum of twice daily.
- Hydrotherapy pools on school grounds can be used for the purpose of therapeutic programs for students, with changing facilities to be cleaned a minimum of twice daily.

Advice on the use of school sporting facilities by the wider community

Community sporting clubs or groups can use school facilities, provided a list of conditions are met to protect from coronavirus (COVID-19)

The Victorian Chief Health Officer has announced easing of restrictions for sport and exercise, effective 1 June.

- Up to 20 people can participate in outdoor group sport and exercise activities, provided you can keep your distance (at least 1.5 metres apart) and are not competitive.
- Up to 20 people can use public playgrounds, outdoor gyms and skateparks.
- Indoor and outdoor swimming pools can be opened to a maximum of 20 patrons per separate enclosed space and a limit of three persons per lane in each pool.

The advice in this article is specific to community-based sport and exercise. For advice on physical education in schools, including equipment requirements, please refer to the [Vic DET Return to School Operations Guide](#).

Conditions for community sporting clubs and groups using outdoor school facilities

Schools may approve the use of outdoor facilities on school property for the purpose of sport and recreation by community sporting clubs and groups if the following conditions are met.

- Any community sporting club or group using school facilities must agree to comply with [current Department of Health and Human Services \(DHHS\) advice](#) (as amended from time to time) in relation to sport and exercise, including the type(s) of activity permitted and the maximum number of participants. Physical distancing must be maintained at all times, regardless of participant age. Compliance with current DHHS advice is required, regardless of any pre-existing or previous arrangements agreed with a community sporting club or group.
- Only one group of participants is permitted to use a single facility at a time (e.g. basketball court or oval).
- Facilities should not be made available for use by a community sporting group if physical distancing (at least 1.5 metres apart) cannot be maintained, for example because of the size of the facility or the facility's proximity to other facilities that are or will be in use.
- If multiple sessions will be run back to back, there must be a break of at least 15 minutes between each session to avoid congregation of multiple groups on a school site. For this reason, participants must also be advised that they must not arrive prior to their scheduled start time or remain after the scheduled end time.
- School facilities cannot be used by local sporting clubs or community groups within 30 minutes of the start or end of the school day. This is to avoid unnecessary mixing with other members of the school community.
- Access to outdoor facilities should be arranged in such a way that participants do not encounter any staff or students remaining on the school premises, for example, for out-of-hours school care programs.
- Changing room facilities cannot be used (except for toilets). Where toilets are used, they must be cleaned prior to the next school day.
- Any sporting equipment that is property of the school cannot be used. Community and sporting groups should use their own equipment, and this should be maintained in accordance with DHHS advice.
- A register of individuals in attendance at each session must be kept by the community group and provided to the school. This should include individuals' name, contact phone number, and dates and times they were present.
- In the event of a confirmed case of coronavirus (COVID-19) in the school community, all access to school facilities must immediately cease while contact tracing and cleaning of the school premises is undertaken, on the advice of the DHHS.

Further easing of restrictions for sport and exercise are planned after 11.59pm on 21 June.