



COVID-19 update

The health and safety of staff and clients is our top priority

Thursday 16 December 2021

[Staff updates page](#) | [Staff email archive](#) | [Health and Wellbeing Team initiatives](#)

Restrictions change tomorrow

From 5am Friday 17 December 2021, the [Public Health and Social Measures linked to vaccination status Direction](#) applies.

A reminder about the key changes under the direction:

- Everybody aged 16 years and over, **including staff, volunteers and contractors**, must be fully vaccinated to enter State Library and Anzac Square Memorial Galleries.
- Capacity restrictions in our front and back of house spaces (including lifts) will no longer apply. Signage will be removed throughout the building on Friday morning.

The new COVID normal

The Queensland Government has released [a plan](#) detailing testing and quarantine requirements for people deemed close or casual contacts from 1 January 2022. You can read [more detailed information](#) about these changes online.

As always, our [COVID Risk Assessment](#) notes the measures we take to eliminate risks to the health and safety of staff and visitors. As cases in the community rise, remember the good COVID behaviours we adopted early in the pandemic: wash your hands, maintain a safe distance or consider wearing a mask, and stay home when you're sick.

Check the [active contact tracing alerts](#) every day and follow Queensland Health advice if you were in the any of the locations at the relevant times. You should continue [getting tested](#) if you have any symptoms.

The 'New NORMAL'



Maintain physical distancing (1.5m)



Wear a mask when you can't physically distance



Maintain good hand hygiene



Stay at home when sick



Check In Qld app for effective contact tracing



Get vaccinated

Entering the workplace during opening hours

From Friday 17 December, front of house staff at South Bank will be checking the vaccination status of visitors to the library, café and shop and are likely to experience some challenging behaviour from the public. The support of back of house colleagues is greatly appreciated.

Back of house staff should consider avoiding the entrance at busy times, such as 9am. Otherwise, please model best practice behaviour by **ensuring your staff ID is visible and/or showing your vaccination status if requested**. Members of the public will not be able to differentiate between other clients and non-uniformed staff, and busy front of house staff may not recognise all back of house staff.

Respect in the workplace

Our obligations under the [Code of Conduct for the Queensland public service](#) mean that we must treat our co-workers (as well as clients and members of the public) with respect, and recognise that others have the right to hold views which may differ from our own (these are both standards outlined under the *Integrity and impartiality* principles in the code). Please be kind to your colleagues in this time of immense change and uncertainty and remember that we are all State Library staff.

Support is available

Don't hesitate to access the services available through [Benestar EAS](#) if you're having trouble managing anxiety or stress (or for any reason). You can also reach out to the [Peer Support Network](#) if you need it.

Thank you,
Vicki