

Subject: Maples Covid-19 Update – Open to Permitted Workers Only

Dear families,

Further to our correspondence, we have received additional communications from the Department of Education that permits are required for **both guardians**. This is not the news we wanted and we understand this will have a significant impact on families.

We have been advised that permits will take effect from Tuesday 24 August and fees for absences will be waived from then. Monday 23 August will operate as per normal.

Unfortunately, we will require updated attendance information. Please click here: <https://eel.com.au/parents-permitted-workers-survey/> if your child will be attending care.

Any child that will be attending the service will be required to provide permits from both guardians. We ask that you provide this to the Centre.

FAQs

We expect families will have questions about how these latest restrictions will affect the provision of childcare, so we have put together the following FAQs.

Will fees be charged if I don't attend?

No, we will waive the full gap, otherwise known as the out-of-pocket cost to families effective from Tuesday 24 August 2021. This means families do not have to cancel their enrolment with Maples.

This will be reviewed each week if your situation changes, and a permit is provided to the centre.

Do I need to provide a permit to Maples if I am a permitted worker and my child is attending childcare?

Yes, any child that will be attending the service will require a permit for both guardians. For single guardian households, only one permit is required.

Emergency Service personal can provide a copy of their identification card to supplement the permit requirement.

If you believe your child is classified as a vulnerable child, please speak with the Centre Director

Who is considered a permitted worker?

Click here: <https://www.coronavirus.vic.gov.au/how-we-work-current-restrictions#authorised-worker-and-provider-permit-scheme> to view information about permitted workers.

Where can I access a permit?

Please click here: <https://www.coronavirus.vic.gov.au/authorised-provider-and-authorised-worker-permit> to access the permit template.

Do I need to get a temperature check on entering the Centre?

Yes, you will need to get a temperature check when you enter our Centre, using our temperature check kiosk. Please ensure you print the temperature check sticker and wear it through the Centre.

Do I need to wear a mask in the Centre?

Yes, all families must wear a mask at the Centre.

Do children need to wear a mask in the Centre?

Children under age 12 are not required to wear a mask.

Will staff be wearing masks?

Yes, all staff will be wearing a mask.

What are we doing to protect our community?

- We are bringing back the temperature check stickers. No-one is allowed to enter the Centre unless they are wearing a temperature check sticker.
- Families must wear masks at the Centre.
- Hand sanitiser is available through the Centre. We ask that families sanitise their hands before entering.
- As always, sick children or staff are not permitted to attend the Centre.

We will keep you updated once we hear more from the Victorian Government.

Thank you for your support. Please stay safe.

Yours sincerely,

Jarrod Macdonald

General Manager – Operations