

# RETURNING TO CIRCUS



## COVID-19 POLICY

We are all aware of the impacts that COVID-19 has had, and continues to have, within our community. While we eagerly look forward to returning to the face-to-face circus experience, this needs to take place responsibly to limit the further spread of the virus.

As such, there will be some significant changes to our usual operations. The changes we are putting in place are to look after the health and safety of our community; **use of our studio and attendance at any of our classes is conditional on adherence to the new requirements.**

Westside Circus has faced some significant challenges, and are now subject to multiple conditions on returning to operation. We ask for your understanding and cooperation in working with us to make face-to-face circus possible again, and in keeping Westside Circus a COVID-19 safe environment.

**Note:** Items in this policy are subject to changes and updates in accordance with changes to state government guidelines and restrictions.

# **COVID-safe Policy**

## **For on-site classes and workshops**

### **General health and personal hygiene for our Westside Circus team and students**

- Westside team members or students who are in any way unwell (even with minor symptoms) must not attend our premises.
- Anyone showing signs of being unwell while using the circus space will be asked to leave. If a school-age participant seems unwell, we will contact the parent or guardian and request that they be picked up immediately.
- All Westside Circus team members and students must thoroughly wash or sanitise hands regularly.
- Cough or sneeze into a tissue or elbow, not hands.
- Avoid touching the face.

### **Payments, enrolments and enquiries**

- If possible, please contact us for enrolments, payments and other enquiries over the phone prior to attendance. Access to reception will be limited.

### **Our timetable**

- In order to accommodate venue restrictions, physical distancing and hygiene/cleaning procedures, we will

be operating with a modified version of our timetable.

- Classes will be slightly shorter to allow additional time to meet COVID-safe requirements before, during and between classes.

## **Arrival for classes**

- Please arrive in plenty of time class.
- Participants should arrive dressed ready for class. Please avoid wearing school or work clothes for training, as these carry potential for contamination based on periods of contact with others. We are not making our changing room facilities available at this time.
- If possible, use the toilet before arrival.
- With the exception of our Preschool classes, our school-aged participants must wait and be dropped off outside the building. A Westside Circus team member will accompany participants inside.
- There is currently a 20 person limit to the number of people permitted in any space at one time. Please only accompany your child inside if absolutely necessary, and please do not linger in our waiting area.
- There will be clearly marked areas set up for hand sanitising. Please supervise your child in sanitising their hands thoroughly before they enter the building. This involves rubbing the hands for 20-30 seconds.

- A Westside Circus team member will perform a no-contact temperature check on every participant prior to joining class. Anyone with a temperature over 37.5° will not be permitted to participate in class and advised to seek medical advice.
- Our Family Room will be closed for Term 3.

## **Drink bottles and other personal items**

- Unfortunately, we are not able to provide access to our water cooler and drinking cups; all participants must bring their own water bottle, clearly labelled.
- If you need to bring in bags, please keep them on the shelves provided and keep all contents inside.
- Please take extra care to bring everything home with you. We are not able to store lost property at this time.

## **During classes**

- Circus activities will take place while maintaining physical distance between participants. Under current DHHS guidelines, four square metres must be allowed per participant.
- The exception to the above is for preschool classes, where the assistance of a parent or guardian will be required for each pre-schooler participating.
- Activities involving contact between participants or requiring spotting will not initially take place during

Term 3. We may review this policy as the term progresses.

- Students will be required to sanitise their hands after drink breaks during class and after touching their faces.
- Coaches have the authority to send participants out of class if they show signs of being unwell.
- If a coach or other Westside Circus team member needs urgently to attend to a participant in the case of an injury or other medical incident, gloves and a mask will be worn.

## **After classes**

- Students must leave promptly after the end of class. Parents, please be ready to collect your child at the designated drop-off/pick up area outside the building.

## **Equipment and the studio space**

- Activities in our Term 3 classes will be planned to minimise the use of shared equipment.
- Our mats have been removed to facilitate thorough cleaning of the floors.
- We will only use equipment which can be easily and fully cleaned and sanitised and equipment will not be shared during class.
- All equipment will be sanitised before and after every class.

- All high-contact surfaces will be regularly sanitised each day.
  - For our Open Juggling class, participants will bring their own juggling equipment
-

# COVID-19 Policy

## For our offsite programs

- Westside Circus team coaches who are unwell (even with minor symptoms) must not attend off-site bookings.
- Any participants showing signs of being unwell during a workshop will be asked to leave.
- All Westside Circus team members must thoroughly wash or sanitise hands regularly.
- Cough or sneeze into a tissue or elbow, not hands.
- Avoid touching the face.
- All equipment being taken to a workshop booking will be thoroughly cleaned and sanitised.
- Westside Circus will bring some cleaning equipment plus hand sanitiser and PPE for themselves.
- Westside Circus coaches will travel in separate vehicles where possible. If essential to travel within the same vehicle, they will have a minimum of 1.5m between them.
- The organisers of the workshop will be responsible for the cleanliness of the venue and the health, hygiene and distancing practices amongst participants.
- Westside Circus coaches will conduct workshops maintaining physical distance from participants at all times.