



Crossway Life Groups COVID Guidelines

In effect from Thursday Feb 18th
2021

Written Feb 17th, 2021



With the new lifting of restrictions from our latest 5-day lockdown to happen at 11:59pm on Wednesday 17th February 2021, the Victorian Government have again lowered the number of visitors allowed in a home gathering from what was the pre-lock down number of 15 people to a maximum of 5 visitors Per day per house effective from February 18th, 2021 onwards.

A maximum of 20 People are allowed to gather in a public place together (i.e., in a Park) as long as they socially distance.

Masks remain mandatory at all indoor gatherings (except when eating or drinking) and outdoor when social distancing cannot be achieved.

Crossway has always sought to lead with best-practice standards, and we want to go beyond the Government requirements, to ensure that we are reflecting the values that Jesus would want us to reflect within our broader community, and to ensure that we are keeping everyone COVID safe at this time.

With the latest Government policy changes that lowers the number of visitors able to come to a family home; you can now only have a maximum of **5 people visit a home in a day.**

For many of our Life groups this will limit them from being able to meeting up again in person at this stage.

Many groups will choose to continue to meet up via zoom for this time, if not able to meet with 5 or less visitors; or some may choose to meet up in a public space if 20 or less persons are present in total.

Life Groups are not classified as a Religious Ceremony under the Government guidelines, so you need to follow the Government home visitor and public gatherings recommendations for being COVID-19 safe. The Government guidelines still recommend outdoor gatherings where possible, so this is still the best first option for a Life Group gathering, however the front and back yard of your house still counts as within the house zone and is also limited to the maximum 5 visitor per day. You can still gather in an outdoor public space with up to 20 people. You can read the Government Recommendations in full at www.coronavirus.vic.gov.au.

If you choose to meet in a **private home, you are limited to a maximum of 5 visitors total per day.**



Crossway Recommendations for Meeting in Person from February 18th, 2021

If any Life Groups choose to meet up in person, either in a public space, or in a home, we request that you still follow the current Government COVID guidelines, as well as ensuring the following precautions are taken:

- You must carry a facemask with you whenever you leave your home, and wear in any public gathering of people.
- It is mandatory that a facemask is to be worn at any time in a public gathering; and strongly recommended to be worn at any other time that social distancing of 1.5m is not physically possible when with anyone outside your immediate household. This includes while visiting another home too.
- Home gatherings are limited to up to 5 visitors per day only. (excluding household members and children under 12 months of age)
- There are no limit on how many different household that the up to 5 visitor can come from.
- Front and back yards are considered as a part of the house
- Public outdoor gatherings are limited to a maximum of 20 people with no limit from how many households they are from.
- In all gatherings continue to maintain proper social distancing: keep appropriate distance between people and also avoid unnecessary physical contact (Avoid handshake or hugs, etc.).
- Ensure hand sanitizer is available to everyone as they gather.
- If you meet in a home, you will need to record all visitors Full name and contact details for 28 days afterwards. (you can use UCare attendance to record this as long as you have each person full contact details in this record.)
- Avoid unnecessary sharing of common items – such as children kicking a ball around or sharing common utensils.
- DO NOT have communal food to share openly by hand. (i.e., Do not have a bowl of chips or lollies on the table).
- Food to be individually served on separate plates dished up by one person with appropriate utensil.
- If you are in any way unwell or in a higher risk category, do not attend any social gatherings with others.
- Some group members may not desire to meet up even in person just yet, and this is OK.
- You may want to enable a hybrid meeting too for anyone not able to be at a gathering in person to link into a gathering via Zoom.
- Ensure that all Life Group members are aware that they may download the Government COVID app (this is voluntary for each individual).

Thank you for playing your part as a leader in this.

