

Armstrongs Coronavirus Update: 18 January 2020

Dear Armstrongs students and the wider Armstrongs community,

The global situation regarding the coronavirus (COVID-19) is constantly evolving and I want to assure you that Armstrongs continues to work hard to minimise any impact that it may have on your health, safety, and training. We are closely monitoring developments and if, and when, required we will update our response to best protect the health and wellbeing of all Armstrongs staff and students.

As a result of the recent announcement made by the Victorian Government regarding the wearing of face masks being that from 11.59pm Sunday 17 January 2021 (effectively concerning all training commencing 7.30am Monday 18 January 2021), face masks will no longer be mandatory in all public indoor settings.

Face masks do continue to be mandatory in some locations/settings including on public transport, shopping centre and hospitals. For a full list of where face masks are mandatory please see the face mask update at <https://www.coronavirus.vic.gov.au/face-masks>

Irrespective of the list of where a face mask must be worn, you still must carry a face mask with you when you leave home (unless you have a lawful reason not to). So in that sense, you must still bring with you a face mask when you are attending Armstrongs for a training course.

However the new face mask guidelines are clear that face masks are strongly recommended when you are in a location/setting where you cannot keep 1.5 metres distance from others. This will be the situation that students attending Armstrongs will find themselves in and that is why Armstrongs' students will still be required to have with them, and be prepared to wear, a face mask when they attend Armstrongs for their training course.

Specifically there are a number of public/common areas which students will need to use to traverse from one area to another and in these areas students may come across many other students and they will not be able to keep 1.5 metres distance from others. Although we have screening processes in place and means through which we can track all persons on an Armstrongs training site on any particular day, the fact remains that our students come from all over the Melbourne metropolitan area and beyond.

Armstrongs also has a face mask wearing policy as a part of its workplace health and safety measures to protect its employees. As a result, when students attend Armstrongs they are likely to see administration/sales staff and trainers wearing face masks.

This is therefore a good time to remind all our future students to remember to bring a face mask (if you don't have one we will provide one to you) and to be advised that there may be certain times throughout your training course that you will be required to wear a face mask or may be requested to wear one for a defined period of time.

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This new measure is in addition to the standing/latest advice on 27 October 2020 from VicRoads in accordance with directives from the Department of Health and Social Services (DHSS) and the Department of Jobs, Precincts & Regions (DJPR) which advised Armstrongs that effective from Wednesday 28 October 2020 it is able to operate on an unrestricted basis:

From Wednesday 28 October 2020, both heavy vehicle and motorcycle training and assessment services (courses) can be undertaken by anyone - it is no longer a requirement to have a Permitted Worker Permit. However, all those attending Armstrongs to do so must still adhere to Armstrongs' COVID-Safe plan as a condition of their training.

Stay safe and all the best to you and your families until then.

Craig Nicholson
CEO
Armstrongs Driver Education Pty Ltd