

Teaching and Learning Recovery Framework: STAGE 6 (Spring 2021: 28 June to 27 Nov)

<p>The Stage 6 teaching and learning response is characterised as a continuation of the Stage 5 framework: ‘Learn flexibly and safely’, but accommodates (i) increased community and student expectations for more large group F2F activities and (ii) the University's intent to preserve advances in online learning and maintain progress on its Flipped and HyFlex strategy.</p> <p>A significant number of our students will be among the last groups to be vaccinated. No information has been provided as to the extent of vaccine coverage or the required community health status to precipitate the complete relaxation of the physical distancing requirements. Under these conditions, Stage 5 planning parameters will remain in place, and the mechanisms for local curriculum planning and teaching delivery will continue to operate. There will be School-based negotiation of Flipped and HyFlex priorities and larger group F2F activities.</p> <p>In STAGE 6, We expect that:</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. The University will have active vibrant campuses delivering F2F content engagement and application activities and some prioritised content delivery, supported by engaged online learning environments. 2. Staff and students will be on campus for most of the week during the session. 3. A continuation of prevailing conditions, with community transmission controlled, and a small number of returnees in quarantine testing positive. 4. Updated (29/3/2021) NSW Government restrictions remain in place (see NSW Government website and RMT Stage 6 Plan). 5. Teaching and Learning Spaces will have student capacities calculated using 2²m rule unless this exceeds pre-pandemic room capacities.. 6. Some current students will be vaccinated in adherence to the NSW Health guidelines for the vaccination of students on placement. 7. The majority of students and staff will be vaccinated as part of Phase 2b of the rollout. 8. The initial relaxation of physical distancing restrictions due to the increased community vaccine coverage and the improvement of overall health status across the community. 9. Other education services (Schools / TAFE etc) will mostly remain open. <p>Most content <i>engagement</i> and <i>application</i> teaching activities have been timetabled for return to campus where it is safe and preferable to do so. An agreed proportion of content <i>engagement</i> and <i>application</i> teaching activities prioritised for <i>HyFlex</i> delivery. Some prioritised content <i>delivery</i> returns to campus as part of Schools’ negotiated strategies for progressing the move to Flipped Curriculum in addition to current Spring timetable.</p>			<p><i>Time Frame:</i> Spring 2021</p> <p><i>De-escalation Triggers:</i> (to snap-lockdown scenario – see notes)</p>
<p>We will be responding to:</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Community expectations for gathering for learning and safely socialising on campus. 2. Some students – some of the time – will still be unable to attend face to face. 	<p>Our flexible Teaching response will involve a combination of:</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> 8. Most content <i>delivery</i> remains online. 9. Selective reactivation of large group teaching spaces for content delivery (i.e. lecture theatres) will occur. 	<p>To deliver this response we need to:</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> 15. Socialise Stage 6 T&L framework as guiding principles to support School and Division planning and discussion with staff and students. 16. Negotiate flipped curriculum strategies / targets and larger group teaching priorities with schools. 	<p>Responsibility:</p> <p>Executive, T&L COVID Taskforce, RMT, Schools</p> <p>Learning Futures, School Deans, and Deputy Deans</p> <p>Schools, COVID T&L Taskforce</p>

Updated: 13/4/21

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<p>3. Encouraging 1.5 m physical distancing in group T&L settings with masks strongly recommended if this cannot be maintained and/or staff /students have concerns.</p> <p>4. Increased availability of placements as vaccine roll-out 1a/1b continues.</p> <p>5. Increased capacity for F2F specialised course application requirements (e.g. labs, fieldwork).</p> <p>6. While the two square metre rule has been relaxed, it will still apply for timetabling room capacities for content engagement & application for Spring as this timetable has been built.</p> <p>7. Opportunities to selectively reactivate larger group teaching spaces by adding to the SPR timetable.</p>	<p>10. Most content <i>engagement</i> activities are scheduled for safe face to face delivery on campus within the constraints of our facilities.</p> <p>11. Agreed proportion content <i>engagement/application</i> activities are prioritised for HyFlex delivery. Priorities negotiated with Schools for maximum impact within resource constraints and monitored against negotiated benchmarks.</p> <p>12. Remote asynchronous access to essential non- HyFlex <i>content engagement</i> activities for individuals if/when required on a case by case basis.</p> <p>13. Minimise requirements for F2F content <i>application</i> activities (e.g. labs/practicals) with most application activities delivered F2F. Some included in HyFlex pilot priorities.</p> <p>14. Assessment will be planned as 90% alternative assessment and 10% invigilated exams with the provision for online invigilation being the preferred mode.</p>	<p>17. For online content <i>delivery</i>; support Schools in implementing/enhancing Flipped Curriculum design and the production of digital content through WoS Studios. Establish and implement the Digital Learning Threshold Standards.</p> <p>18. Update COVID Teaching Protocols to reflect government advice.</p> <p>19. Timetable ‘planned’ Spring F2F content <i>engagement</i> activities to optimise the use of ZETS for HyFlex priorities.</p> <p>20. Collaborate with Schools to identify priority content <i>engagement</i> activities for Spring HyFlex delivery. Identify additional HyFlex pilot initiatives (labs, flagship programs, etc). Evaluate HyFlex delivery.</p> <p>21. Support Schools in revising curriculum to optimise requirements for F2F laboratories/practical activities and supplement with virtual. Timetable labs/practicals and identify any infrastructure constraints (lab capacity, scheduling, campus facilities etc.)</p> <p>22. Continue 90/10 examination strategy with a preference for online invigilation for examinations and supplementary examinations.</p> <p>23. GPA neutral scheme will be discontinued unless COVID-19 transmission in the community impacts teaching and learning warranting reassessment of the resumption of the scheme.</p> <p>24. International students will continue to be supported via flexible and compassionate policy responses.</p> <p>25. Communicating to students and staff about Spring arrangements including individual / institutional responsibilities (i.e. University continues to support student learning in flexible ways) and maintaining hygiene / health measures.</p> <p>26. Maintain QR coding at building and classroom level to support contact tracing. Monitor and report on student populations on campus and online.</p>	<p>Schools, RMT</p> <p>PVC (LF), COVID T&L Taskforce – Deans, Deputy Deans, DAPs & UCs</p> <p>TRTS/LF with Schools & RMT</p> <p>Schools and Senate Assessment C’tee (AAWP).</p> <p>Chair Senate & DVCA</p> <p>Schools, COVID T&L Taskforce RMT</p> <p>ITDS, RMT, Learning Futures</p>
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Scenario: Snap Lockdown

1. A rise in community transmission – possible cluster (i.e. Holiday Inn in Melbourne).
2. The University campuses will close-down, all non-essential staff WFH.
3. Short (5-day) comprehensive lock-down, accompanied by scaled-up testing to undertake case identification.
4. Government restrictions enforced requiring Sydney residents to remain in their homes except for essential shopping, exercise, caregiving, or essential work.
5. Some presentation of positive cases among staff and students.

University T&L response

- Fully online delivery for all content delivery and content engagement for the duration of the lockdown.
- Deferred F2F content application (i.e. practical classes) for the duration of the lockdown.
- Fully online delivery of student support and administration services.
- Depending on Government guidance, Return to Stage 5 post-lockdown conditions.