

**School Risk Assessment Information****S3**

The following information is designed to assist schools in planning a visit to Sydney Opera House and preparing a risk assessment and risk management plan.

Teachers undertaking a risk assessment and risk management plan should be aware that Sydney Opera House cannot complete the risk assessment for them.

More information can be obtained by contacting Sydney Opera House Strategy and Compliance: [safety@sydneyoperahouse.com](mailto:safety@sydneyoperahouse.com)

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**General Information**

- Sydney Opera House has developed an Emergency Plan detailing Emergency Procedures to cope with likely emergency scenarios.
- The evacuation assembly points for Sydney Opera House, depending on the type of emergency and weather conditions are the main Forecourt, East Circular Quay or the Royal Botanic Gardens.
- Sydney Opera House has a fully compliant fire detection and suppression system, which includes an Emergency Warning and Intercommunication System.
- In an emergency these systems are managed by the Emergency Planning & Response Groups which provides 24 hour, 7 days-a-week coverage. Our Emergency Planning & Response Group will advise school groups of what course to take in the event of an emergency.
- Sydney Opera House has a fully-equipped first aid room, staffed by registered nurses from 8am-11.30pm, 7 days-a-week. Additional staff hold senior first aid certificates and extra first aid equipment includes oxy-viva and defibrillators sets.
- As the site is surrounded by water on three sides, lifebuoy rings are located on the outside of the building.
- The exterior of the building is fully paved in different forms of granite and there are many stairs. There is limited protection from the elements (i.e. sun, wind, rain etc.). Suitable footwear and clothing is strongly recommended.
- The entire exterior areas of the site and all public areas within the building are covered by CCTV cameras.
- Visitor toilets, including accessible toilet facilities are located:
  - on the Lower Level near the Opera Bar;
  - inside the Western Foyer open all day till theatres close; and
  - on the Upper Level in the main Box Office foyer near the Information Desk.
- Sydney Opera House has a comprehensive Child Protection Policy and Child Protection Procedures in place, which all staff are required to comply with. These documents can be accessed via our website [sydneyoperahouse.com](http://sydneyoperahouse.com).

- Sydney Opera House is fully covered by public liability insurance.

## **Access**

- There is no bus or coach access to the Sydney Opera House site. By prior arrangement, approval may be given for mini buses to drop off and pick up people with disabilities.
- People who are unable to walk long distances can be dropped off in taxis or private vehicles at the small onsite roundabout near the covered Vehicle Concourse on Ground Level of the Sydney Opera House.
- A limited number of courtesy wheelchairs are available for students attending performances in the Concert Hall and Opera Theatre.
- All vehicles (including taxis and private vehicles) are required to stop at the Main Gate to confirm their access requirements with the Security Officer.
- All authorised vehicles moving around the site on pedestrian paved areas will be escorted and not allowed to travel faster than walking pace.
- The nearest public transport (rail, bus and ferry) is located at Circular Quay, which is a short walk from Sydney Opera House.
- There is a covered walkway from Circular Quay to Sydney Opera House, with a five metre gap between the apartment building at the northern end of Macquarie Street and the escalator leading down to Sydney Opera House's Lower Level.
- At any time vehicles may access the site for deliveries or drop offs via the entry roadway which is also used by pedestrians as a crossing point.
- There are a large number of steps and floor level changes across Sydney Opera House.
- The public lift connects three levels of the building, the Lower and Ground Levels to the Upper Main Box Office Level. The lift can be accessed via an underground corridor near the Sydney Opera House shop on the Lower Level and also at a corridor on the Ground Level (at the top of the escalators). New escalators connect the box office foyer to the Opera Theatre and Concert Hall southern foyers.
- There are a number of wheelchair and companion seating locations in all theatres. Please advise the Box Office of accessible and companion seating as well as any other access requirements at the time of booking.

## **Services**

- The nearest public hospital is Sydney Opera House Hospital in Macquarie Street. The nearest private medical centre is the Gateway Quayside Medical Centre at Circular Quay.
- More detailed information can be found on our website [sydneyoperahouse.com](http://sydneyoperahouse.com)