

# Y Central Vaccination Statement

The health and wellbeing of the community is, and will always be, at the heart of the Y Central's purpose.

As per New Zealand Government guidance, Businesses who wish to open throughout all levels of the COVID Protection Framework will be required to use vaccination certificates. This is something that Y Central supports.

Our organisation depends on people connecting in person. A large number of our customers are particularly vulnerable - either they are children who cannot yet be vaccinated, or they are particularly vulnerable to serious illness from COVID-19.

We have gone through an extensive exercise internally, assessing and understanding the risk that Delta brings to our centres, and internal consultation with our people to introduce a policy requiring all roles within Y Central to be undertaken by vaccinated workers. This is something that has been overwhelmingly supported - our people believe in keeping themselves and others safe.

Y Central will be operating within the vaccination passport requirements of the COVID- 19 Protection Framework. This means that we will require proof of vaccination from everyone eligible aged 12 years 3 months and over in order to enter one of our Vaccine Certified Businesses.

Programmes and services in a 'learning environment', an 'extension of a school setting' as well as MSD/OSCAR funded programmes (ECEs, Before and After School Care, Holiday programmes, School Sports leagues, School camps, Youth Services and Education Programmes) are exempt from requiring proof of vaccinations, although there are specific rules pertaining to parents/carers in these settings.

The Y stands by its Organisational Values, which are core to the not-for-profit's direction and policies. The Board of Directors and the Senior Leadership team have mandated the use of the Vaccine certificate system for applicable programmes as a requirement to visit and work at the Y because we are:

- Responsible for ensuring we are doing all we can, including getting vaccinated, to protect our teammates and the wider community.
- Caring for those who cannot medically receive the vaccine because they don't have the choice. This includes children under 12 years of age and those who are medically exempt, and we know that our collective strength in getting vaccinated means they will be safer.
- Respectful of each other and show kindness to one another and our customers as we continue to navigate the application of our Vaccination policy and how that will apply to our direct delivery of service and the communities we support.
- Honest with you and will continue to be transparent with you on all matters relating to vaccination. We will continue to provide you with information from reputable sources about COVID-19 vaccines and guidance on where to access a vaccine.
- Committed to prioritising Safety – for you, our customers and our communities. Safety always comes first, and we know that by getting vaccinated, we are providing a workplace and a service environment for our customers that is healthier and safer for everyone.

# What this means for our programmes & services:

## **Y-Kids/OSCAR/Holiday Programmes**

- Before and After School care and Holiday Programmes do not require proof of vaccination.
- On school sites Before & After School Care follows the rules of the local school meaning parents will need to be vaccinated if they wish to stay onsite. Unvaccinated parents may still pick up/drop off maintaining social distancing and mask wearing.

## **Upper Hutt & Masterton Rec Centres**

- All members and customers eligible and 12 years 3 months and older will need to provide proof of vaccination to enter. Members will have a waiver on their membership access card meaning this will only need to be provided once.
- Group bookings (birthday parties etc) will need to provide a disclaimer that all eligible participants will be vaccinated.
- Parents/carers of children in kids programmes will need to provide proof upon entry.

## **Recreation Programmes**

- School sports leagues and programmes are an extension of the school setting and therefore fall under the Education guidelines meaning kids will not need to provide proof of vaccination. (Where we run programmes offsite such as Te Rauparaha Arena, Porirua or Jubilee Hall and Springvale Stadium in Whanganui, we will be obligated to follow the rules set out by these facilities).
- Parents/Carers/spectators will need to provide proof of vaccination upon entry.

## **Outdoor Education/Camps**

- School camps fall under the Education guidance meaning kids will not need to provide proof of vaccination. Schools will be required to send only vaccinated parents/helpers and teachers.
- Kids on Holiday Camps are not required to provide proof of vaccination.
- Family Camp attendees 12 yrs 3mths and over will need to provide proof of vaccination.

## **Youth Services**

- Alternative Education/ Rangatahi Ora and other educational Youth programmes funded by either MOE or MSD/OT fall under the Educational Guidance and do not require proof of vaccination.

## **Accommodation**

- As a Community Housing Provider we can not request proof of vaccination, however, it remains the best defence against Covid and it is highly recommended to protect our tenants.