

# BEACHES FAQs

## WAVERLEY COUNCIL

May 2020



### Are the beaches open?

Yes. Following the easing of restrictions, our beaches are open for recreation, as well as exercise. All activities will now be allowed on the beach including running, walking, swimming surfing, sitting and sunbathing.

Access to the water and sand is via the current access corridors, which will now be left open, however the fencing will remain in place. Council staff will monitor numbers to ensure the 500 people limit across the beaches is adhered to. If it gets too busy on the sand, Council may need to limit access or reduce the activities allowed on the sand.

Please note that our current Lifeguard patrol hours are between 7am and 5pm, 7 days a week. The red and yellow flags will be up (when conditions allow).

### Can I run on the sand?

Yes. All activities are now allowed on the beach including running, walking, swimming and surfing. Access to the sand is available through the current access corridors.

### Can I sit on the sand?

Yes. All activities are now allowed on the beach, however a 500-person limit applies to all of Waverley's beaches. If it gets too busy, Council may need to limit access or reduce the activities allowed on the sand. Everyone is asked to follow the Public Health Order and gather in groups of 10 people or less.

### Can I bring my children to the beach?

Yes.

North Bondi Children's Pool will also be open and accessible for children, with a limit of 10 people in the area at any one time.

### Will I be asked to leave the beach if the beach is closed?

Under the current restrictions, Council is required to ensure there no more than 500 people on the beach at any one time. If the beach becomes too busy, we may need to restrict entry or reduce the activities allowed on the sand.

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#### Media Enquiries:

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If the beach is closed due to rough conditions, we would ask people to respect the advice of our Lifeguards.

### Why is the fencing still up if the beaches are open?

The fences remain in place across our beaches to help Council manage access to the beach during this time. Whilst the current 500 person restriction on numbers on our beaches remain in place, Council will take measures to manage these areas accordingly.

### Where is the best place for me to swim or surf?

The beaches are open. For your own safety, we ask swimmers to stay inside the red and yellow flags (if conditions allow for flags) and surfers and surf craft users to stay outside the flag areas.

Below are some tips for each beach:

<b>Bondi Beach:</b> Swimming is restricted to the northern end of the beach, where the flags will be up if conditions allow.  Surfing is restricted to the middle and southern end of the beach.  North Bondi and Wally Weeks Pool will be open, with a limit of 10 people at any one time.	<b>Bronte Beach:</b> Swim where the flags are, if conditions allow.  Surfers are asked to stay out of the flags.  Bronte Pool will be open, with a limit of 10 people in the pool at a time.	<b>Tamarama Beach:</b> Swim where the flags are, if conditions allow.  Surfers are asked to stay out of the flags.	<b>Please note:</b> <ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>• Lifeguards will maintain a strict focus on water safety</li><li>• Lifeguards will make Public Safety announcements on the loud-speaker</li><li>• Rangers and Council staff will be monitoring the access points</li><li>• Time limits may need to be introduced during busy periods for people accessing the pools</li></ul>
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### Are the ocean pools open?

Yes. Bronte Pool, North Bondi Kids Pool and Wally Weeks Pool are open for swimming and recreation. In line with the new Public Health order, there is a 10 person limit in each space. Council staff will monitor numbers and will ask people to come back another time if there is already 10 people in a pool area. Time limits may need to be introduced during busy periods to ensure as many people as possible are able to enjoy the space.

### How will Council manage the numbers?

Rangers and Council Ambassadors [staff] will be available at all beaches to provide advice and information and will assist in closing the access routes if areas become too busy.

### Will the outdoor showers be open?

Showers remain closed until further notice.

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