

# Ventilation- Safer indoor air

Under the OHS/WHS legislation, the Church is required to eliminate health risks so far as reasonably practicable. This means, so far as reasonably possible, maintaining ventilation systems and ensuring that workplace ventilation is adequate so that the building is without risks to health. Ensuring fresh air circulation is set out in Australian Standard AS 1668 Part 2. This requirement is 10 litres per second of outdoor air inflow in most workplaces. Additionally, if the temperature of the workplace exceeds 27 degrees, fresh air circulation needs to increase to 15 litres per second per person. If ventilation rates fall below the standard, the maximum room occupancy should be decreased and other preventative measures taken.

Air movement throughout the building is necessary for the health, safety and comfort of everyone.

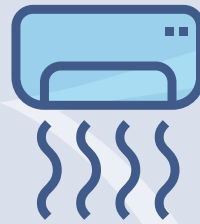
**Recommendation:** Church Council to complete a ventilation assessment:

- adequate natural ventilation for the number of persons, or
- mechanical ventilation to support recirculating air-conditioning and exhausting



#### For naturally ventilated premises:

- Keep windows and/or doors open whenever you can
- If possible, reduce or limit the number of people inside



#### For enclosed air-conditioned spaces without mechanical ventilation provision (e.g. church buildings with split unit air-conditioners):

- Open doors/windows frequently



#### For air-conditioned spaces with mechanical ventilation provisions:

- Ensure ventilation systems are in good working order
- Maximise fresh air intake
- Purge indoor air daily before occupancy
- Reduce indoor air circulation

**Mechanical ventilation**

Engage a consulting services engineer or contact Synod Property Services to ensure your system complies with Australian Standards.

Capacity is the number of persons a building can safely accommodate. The number of persons attending any function shall not exceed the capacity of the building stated on the Occupancy Permit. For buildings without an Occupancy Permit, please consult with Property Services for capacity calculation.

Property Services  
Level 2, 130 Lonsdale St, Melbourne, 3000

t: **(03) 9116 1400**  
e: [property@victas.uca.org.au](mailto:property@victas.uca.org.au)  
w: [victas.uca.org.au](http://victas.uca.org.au)