

## **THE DANCE STUDIO COVID PROCEDURES AND POLICIES**

Dance Studio staff have been researching, attending webinars and completing courses on how to prevent the spread of Coronavirus. Please see our well thought out plan which will be put in place in order to minimise the spread of infection to all that attend classes.

### **Safety**

Safety is of the utmost importance to us at The Dance Studio and we want to reassure you that we are doing everything we can to keep children and adults safe before, during and after classes. All teachers have undertaken infection control courses and additional training. They have been consulted and informed about the plans e.g. safety measures, reporting requirements, organised departure and arrival.

### **Risk assessment.**

We have updated our risk assessments, taking into account COVID-19 precautions for every venue we will hold classes in.

### **Coronavirus Guidelines**

Please ensure you have read and understood the Coronavirus guidance on the Gov.uk website. In sending your child to classes at The Dance Studio you agree to follow the guidelines: The web address for your reference is <https://www.gov.uk/coronavirus>

We ask that if your child shows signs or symptoms of coronavirus that they stay at home and self-isolate for a minimum of 10 days. Please **do not** bring them to their dance classes. More guidance is in the link above. If your child has attended a class and subsequently shown symptoms, been tested and is positive, please advise Miriam at The Dance Studio

**Entering and exiting the building-** Parents please drop off and pick up only, in order to minimise traffic and the spread of the virus. The exception is for our Teeny/ Tiny Ballerina accompanied and little ones classes. If any parent does need to enter for any circumstance or because a child is unsettled, then they must sanitise their hands on entry and exit and we advise you to wear a mask.

Please be punctual in dropping off/collecting your child at the correct time. The teacher needs to have adequate time to clean in-between classes and allow time to bring the next class of children in. Most importantly, we need to avoid as much traffic as possible.

### **Space in class**

We know the virus can transmit through droplets from the nose and mouth – it can linger in the air, fall to the ground and be transmitted by talking as well as touch and close contact. Masks and visors are not conducive to a dance and drama environment, therefore classes will be sensible sizes and students spread out in the spaces as much as possible.

In Parent accompanied classes for little ones only one parent may attend with their child, and we advise that they wear a mask and remain a sensible distance from the other parents/carers.

We have had each hall measured and know exactly how many pupils fit safely in each venue in order to keep to the guidelines supplied by the government. This will be strictly adhered to.

Staff have discussed correction measures (where these would normally be done with considered physical contact) and delivering guidance at a distance.

### **No changing inside of building unless absolutely necessary**

We advise that pupils are to arrive already in their uniform for classes if possible. If pupils have more than one class and normally have to change uniform, they will not have to change in between classes. E.g. if they have ballet and modern, they can wear their black leggings/footless tights over their ballet tights and then take these off in between class inside the hall OR just wear ballet tights for modern. Please contact me if you have any problems.

### **Minimum belongings brought to class**

Please minimise the amount of belongings needed in class. All pupils will need is a bottle of water, any medical items, a mask (if applicable) and their dancing shoes. Pupils will have their own individual space to leave their items which will be cleaned regularly.

### **Toilets**

Please encourage your child to go to the toilet before class. We would like to avoid using the toilets if possible. If they need the toilet during class, they will only be allowed to go one at a time. Surfaces and toilets will be cleaned regularly.

### **Cleanliness**

Students will be asked to clean hands, on entry and exit to classes with hand sanitisers provided by ourselves and/or the venues. All common contact surfaces will be cleaned regularly such as doors, light switches, chairs, barres etc.

Props will be used in our little ones classes but not shared between children. After their single use they will be set aside to be fully disinfected/washed before they are used again.

Where possible doors will be propped open to minimise touching surfaces.

## **Ventilation**

Where possible all spaces will be well ventilated, doors and windows will be opened frequently so that there is a maximum through flow of air.

## **PPE**

Currently mask wearing is not recommended during exercise so will not be required for students in classes. However, all students age 11 upwards and staff will be recommended to wear a face covering in the common areas of each venue. Your co-operation in this matter is much appreciated.

## **Fees and payment policy**

When registering your child for classes you agree to our terms and conditions. These have been updated and can be found on our website.

Our payment policy still stands and if you wish to terminate classes, we require half a terms notice in advance. Fees will still be due if you fail to give advance notice. Please understand that overheads (hall hire, teachers, insurance, and other expenses- such as COVID requirements) still need to be covered. See below for updates but do read our full terms and conditions and the payment policy on our website. Fees will be invoiced termly as before. Our multiple class discounts are also available

As stated in our previous policy, refunds are not provided for students' sickness, injury, school trips, holidays etc. This includes Coronavirus. If classes are temporarily cancelled for any reason, we will offer a replacement class instead (in a venue or online) and no refund will be given. If a teacher at The Dance Studio contracts Coronavirus and has to self- isolate, as well as letting you know, we will try our best to keep classes running with another teacher or classes will then take place via Zoom until normal classes can recommence.

If lockdown is reintroduced, classes will revert to Zoom immediately. The timetable may adjust slightly to combine some of the separated groups but will roughly be the same. No refunds will be given.

## **Up to date information and your consent**

Please ensure the contact information you have provided The Dance Studio with when registering your child is up to date so we can contact you if we need to. By sending your child to classes you will agree to the terms above and also agree for us to contact you should we need to regarding a case of coronavirus in your child's class. By sending your child to class you also consent for us to share your information to Track and Trace if needed.

Please follow the link and fill in a COVID-19 parent consent form.

<https://www.thedancestudioherts.co.uk/covid-19-consent-form/>