

Aspirations School of Dance Studio

Reopening Overview

The following information is based upon the guidance as given by the various governing departments to date. Its content may be subject to change, pending further information and lawful requirements from September 2020.

On the 10th July 2020, the Department for Business, Energy & Industrial Strategy published new guidance that confirmed from the 25th July 2020, indoor dance studios and gyms would be allowed to open, with certain measures in place. However, as Aspirations School of Dance works with children, this new guidance does not supersede the guidance published on the 1st July by the Department for Education and is additional information to help us run safely.

By Law

Dance studios can open from 25th July 2020 and offer dance indoors if distancing is maintained and guidelines for maximum capacity within gyms is adhered too. This is 100sqft per person for the whole of a venue – including lobby, changing rooms, toilets etc, not just the dance studio. Guidance also suggests limiting mixing of ‘bubbles’ where at all possible.

On 10th July The Department Of Education released new guidance for Early Year Settings. From 20th July “early years settings will no longer be required to keep children in small, consistent groups within settings.” Our under 5’s will not have to social distance, but all other protective measures will remain in place.

Our COVID-19 secure procedure

Included (but not limited to):

- i. Ensuring no one at the setting (or a part of anyone’s household) if experiencing COVID-19 symptoms
- ii. Promoting regular handwashing in both staff and students
- iii. Introduce good hygiene by promoting the ‘catch it, bin it, kill it’ approach
- iv. introduce enhanced cleaning such as high-contact points.
- v. minimise contact between groups where possible
- vi. where necessary, wear appropriate personal protective equipment (PPE)

Max Teacher: Student Ratio = 1: 7

All current social distancing measures will be implemented throughout this procedure.

Groups of no more than 7 students will be supervised by 1 teacher. For the purposes of child-friendly and age appropriateness Aspirations School of Dance will call these groups “bubbles”. There is to be no cross contamination between bubbles as students will not mix and spaces will be cleaned between group’s use.

To be permitted into class, parents must agree to a health questionnaire being completed each attendance to confirm no one in the household has any symptoms or has been told to self-isolate. This will run on the App Dance Checkin which is GDPR compliant. PPE will be left to parental choice.

No parents will be allowed on site, they must drop off and collect at the main entrance, 2m markers will be laid out to ensure any queuing results in social distancing.

Upon arrival, all students will have their temperature taken through our infra-red thermometer. Student's should arrive in uniform (with their dance shoes in the drawstring bag provided)

Any child with a fever (for any reason) will be denied entry and must be taken home by their parents.

Students will be then taken to the space used for their classes where they will have been allocated a 2m² space to use throughout their session.

Students will also bring their bags in to this space, be allowed to change shoes and we can conduct lessons and activities. If sessions are longer than 45 minutes in length, there will be a staggered break to wash hands. Increased handwashing is encouraged particularly before and after eating or using equipment.

Breaks and the use of the corridor and bathroom will be closely monitored to ensure social distancing is always upheld. This will be through staggered breaks, toilet supervision and social distance marking in the corridor.

Singing has reportedly been notified as a more high-risk activity in relation to the spread of COVID-19. Musical theatre will primarily have dance and drama components, all singing to be done back to back and facing ventilation.

Any student/teacher or family member who is tested positive for COVID-19 up to two weeks post event dates must immediately inform Aspirations School of Dance. The bubble that is affected will immediately be notified including students/parents/teachers. Should this occur while classes are running, the bubble affected will be shut down, and spaces deep cleaned immediately follow government guidance "COVID-19: cleaning in non-healthcare settings".

If a student is incapable of following new rules within the studio as mentioned in our student behaviour policy, Aspirations School of Dance has the right to remove the student from classes. This will be on a case-by-case basis and no refund will be offered.

In the event that a bubble has to self-isolate classes will continue on zoom to avoid an interruption in service- no refund will be given.