

This plan is based on current government guidelines.

We endeavour to keep the heart of the dance school professional and friendly within these regulations with the children having fun whilst working hard. You must confirm your place in class as registers must be accurate for track and trace.

Before arrival at the hall

It is important that you are responsible for only sending your child to dancing if they are feeling well. If your child has any classic Covid symptoms (cough, temperature, changes in taste and smell) you must not send your child to dancing. It has been shown that Covid can present as other symptoms such as headaches and general malaise so please err on the side of caution and keep your child off dancing if they are feeling at all under the weather. If someone in the child's family has any Covid symptoms or a temperature you must not send your child to dancing.

Please change your child into their dance uniform at home if you can. I understand a few children may have to come straight from school. In these cases, there will be a designated area for their clothes and school wear with plastic boxes to place their clothes and belongings in. This area will be disinfected fully between bubbles. Ideally, please come in your dance uniform. If it is cold, a hoody and leggings may be worn over the dance uniform, something simple that just can be taken off easily and placed in our plastic boxes. A clean uniform must be worn to every class. Please replace laces in tap shoes with elastic that is tied if your child is not able to tie their own laces. Please bring a water bottle to class, as the kitchen will be closed, therefore children cannot take a drink from the kitchen. Your child must wear outside shoes on arrival to the hall, not dance shoes. Coats must all be hung in the cloakroom outside of the dancing hall.

What to expect on arrival

Your teacher will greet you at the door. Parents and children must wait at the door area in a socially distanced way. There is a one way system in place where children will enter through the main door and exit through the fire door (or exit by the garden if in the small hall). The children will enter the building and leave their outside shoes and coat in a designated area. They will then be taken to the handwashing area where they will wash their hands for 20 seconds with soap and warm water and put their dance shoes on. Hand sanitiser may also be used. Indoor dance shoes must not be worn outside. Social distance will be observed at all times.

On entering the hall

The hall will have windows open for ventilation.

Children will then be assigned places within 2m square boxes on the floor with everyone facing towards the stage. There are 1m gaps between the 2m boxes. Therefore children will maintain social distance at all times. Teachers will stand on the stage to obtain the best view of the children and also to maintain social distance. Nursery and reception children (Early years) will not have to socially distance from each other, but teachers will stay socially distanced from all children wherever possible.

Equipment will not be used other than the ballet barre. The ballet barre will be divided into 2m lengths with tape. Ballet barres will be disinfected before and after use. Centre barre will be practised often to learn barre work.

Partner work or holding hands will not take place in class.

Children will be allowed to bring their water bottle into the dancing hall and also their dance shoes, but no other items will be permitted, except valuables. In the winter months, dancers may bring a dance school hoody or a cardigan into the hall if the temperature is cooler. Hair should be tied up.

At the end of the class

Hands will be washed or sanitised. Children will be dismissed one at a time from the fire door at the back of the main hall, or through the community centre garden and into the car park if in the smaller hall. This way we will ensure a one way system. Parents should stand outside the door of the hall in a socially distanced way. Parents are not permitted inside the hall.

What happens if your child has an injury or an accident?

Although as far as we can, teachers will keep their distance, if there was an incidence where your child has an injury that needs attended to, has an accident or requires help with going to the toilet the teacher will put on a mask and gloves and will help your child. There will never be a situation where a child in need doesn't get attended to in a caring way! Being sensible in these situations will predominate. Parents are advised to always keep their mobile phones on whilst their child is in class as if a child starts feeling unwell in class, we will phone the parent immediately to arrange for them to pick up their child.

What will the atmosphere be like in class?

Friendly and happy as per usual! We are used to a structured, disciplined class anyway so good listening to instructions is a skill most of these children already have! We will still be having fun and the atmosphere in class will still be upbeat as usual!

Do we need to wear masks?

For age 11+ masks must be worn in the corridors. Masks may be removed for all dance classes as it is advised to remove masks for exercise.

What happens in between each group of children?

Prior to the first class and after the last class, the hall floor will be cleaned, door handles will antibacterial wiped and the toilet cleaned. In between classes with different bubbles, cleaning will be carried out thoroughly.

Our teachers have taken a prevent Covid-19 course and passed the assessment to say we thoroughly understand the information given on the course.

Zoom classes

Zoom classes will be offered for children who need to self isolate because of coronavirus, or in periods of time where we are unable to run classes from the community centre.