



COVID-19 POLICY

ASHFORD

Version 1.2 – Amended version

September 2021

The Purpose of this policy:

- To protect our pupils and their families, as well as the staff that work for us.
- To provide parents and staff with the procedures that we have put in place to ensure classes are safe and compliant with government Covid-19 guidelines.

Before arriving to class:

- If your child / yourself (adult participants) are feeling unwell with any form of illness or have a temperature of over 37.8°C they/you should not attend the class.
- Although social distancing restrictions have been lifted we encourage all students and their families to respect the personal space of others.
- Students should please arrive dressed ready for their dance class where possible, with a simple layer of clothes over the top to remove and a change of shoes. Belongings brought to class, including their own bottle of water, should be kept to an absolute minimum and kept in a named bag.

Arrival at Class:

- For the time being we would ask that parents continue to drop off their children five minutes before their class start time to the main entrance/waiting area, and collect from outside the Fire Exit in accordance with the Dance Visions Studios policy.
- Hand sanitiser will be available on entry.
- Although the wearing of face coverings is now a personal choice we would in the interests of staff and pupil safety like to encourage anyone over the age of 11 years to continue to wear a face mask in communal areas especially at busy times such as class changeovers.

During Class:

- Class sizes have been restricted in size to allow appropriate distancing for the size of each studio.
- Pupils will be asked to wash or sanitise their hands before entering the studio.
- Teachers may use hands on correction in class but this will be kept to a minimum and all staff will ensure that they have sanitised their hands beforehand.

- Contact partner work will also be permitted in class but again pupils will be asked to wash/sanitise their hands first.
- Any props or equipment used in class will be cleaned after each use.
- No outdoor shoes should be worn into the studio. Students should always bring a change of shoes.
- If students require the toilet during class they will be instructed to wash their hands before returning to the studio.

After class:

- Staff will clean high touch surfaces in the studio in between classes and desk staff will continue to clean high touch surfaces in other areas of the building throughout the day/evening.
- Parents should arrive promptly at the class finish time to collect their child from outside the Fire Exit. All pupils under the age of 16 years must be collected by a responsible adult unless permission is sought from us in advance.

Cleaning and Hygiene:

- Teachers and other staff will be following strict cleaning procedures:
 - They will wipe down the barres, door handles and other high-touch surfaces between each class and throughout the day.
 - Ensure the premise has appropriate and additional cleaning procedures in place.
 - Ensure there is an ample supply of antibacterial hand soap, hand sanitiser and paper towels for use.
 - Ensure there is a supply of PPE for when it is required.

Face coverings:

- Although the wearing of face coverings is now a personal choice we would in the interests of staff and pupil safety like to encourage anyone over the age of 11 years to continue to wear a face mask in communal areas especially at busy times such as class changeovers.
- It is recommended that students do not wear face coverings during class. The World Health Organisation (WHO) advises against the wearing of face masks whilst exercising as it makes it difficult to breathe and in addition if students get hot and the face mask becomes damp from sweat it will become ineffective and promote the growth of microorganisms.

If a pupil begins to feel unwell or shows Covid-19 symptoms during a class:

- The student will be removed from the class immediately and isolated. A parent will be called to come and collect them. They will wait with a member of staff until collected and if displaying Covid-19 symptoms will be advised of the stay at home guidance and

must not return to the studio until after their period of self-isolation or until they have taken the relevant tests (as per the current government guidance).

- If a child does test positive for Covid parents of children in the class will be advised of a possible case via the NHS 'Test and Trace', and if a case is confirmed, we will follow Government guidance.
- We will keep the names and contact numbers of those attending each class, and would in the event of being contacted by 'Test and Trace' be legally obliged to disclose these if necessary.

Staff:

- All staff have been instructed in our Covid-19 policy.
- All staff are DBS-checked.
- There will always be at least one trained first-aider on site at all times.