

COVID-19 - Procedures for Music and Performing Arts – Michaelmas Term

Langley appreciates that music and the performing arts are a major part of school activities and has drawn up the following guidance for Michaelmas Term based upon current government guidance. We will remain vigilant to changing guidance and will update advice and procedures in accordance with any change, as required.

Although the references below provide advice and guidance for staff and pupils to perform in a reduced format, group practice and performances should only go ahead with due planning and complete confidence that we can fulfil distancing guidance to ensure duty of care to staff and pupils, ensuring no-one is exposed to COVID-19 risks.

Reference to relating areas of government guidance:

<https://www.gov.uk/government/publications/actions-for-schools-during-the-coronavirus-outbreak/guidance-for-full-opening-schools> states that:

“Schools should note that there may be an additional risk of infection in environments where you or others are singing, chanting, playing wind or brass instruments or shouting. This applies even if individuals are at a distance. Schools should consider how to reduce the risk, particularly when pupils are playing instruments or singing in small groups such as in music lessons by, for example, physical distancing and playing outside wherever possible, limiting group sizes to no more than 15, positioning pupils back-to-back or side-to-side, avoiding sharing of instruments, and ensuring good ventilation. Singing, wind and brass playing should not take place in larger groups such as school choirs and ensembles, or school assemblies. Furthermore detailed DfE guidance will be published shortly”

<https://www.gov.uk/government/publications/covid-19-guidance-for-the-safe-use-of-places-of-worship-during-the-pandemic-from-4-july/covid-19-guidance-for-the-safe-use-of-places-of-worship-during-the-pandemic-from-4-july> which includes:

“At this time, venues should not permit indoor performances, including drama, comedy and music, to take place in front of a live audience. However, rehearsals and broadcast performances, without a live audience, can take place. Venues should take account of the [Performing Arts guidance](#) in organising outdoor performances. Indoor performances to a live audience are expected to resume after 1 August, subject to the successful completion of pilots, and provided prevalence remains around or below current levels.

Indoors - where essential to an act of worship, one individual only should be permitted to sing or chant, and the use of plexi-glass screens should be considered to protect worshippers from them, as this will further prevent transmission and the screen can be easily cleaned. Where music plays a big part in worship, and recordings are available, we suggest you consider using these as an alternative to live singing.

You are advised only to play musical instruments that are not blown into. Organs can be played for faith practices, as well as general maintenance, but should be cleaned thoroughly before and after use.

Except for the limited circumstances outlined above, people should avoid singing, shouting, raising voices and/or playing music at a volume that makes normal conversation difficult or

that may encourage shouting. This is because of the potential for increased risk of transmission from aerosol and droplets”

Useful advice is also available at:

<https://www.gov.uk/guidance/working-safely-during-coronavirus-covid-19/performing-arts#arts-6-4>

and

https://www.ukmusic.org/assets/general/Music_Production_Guidance_for_DCMS_FINAL_2.1.pdf

Langley School - Instrumental Lessons and Extracurricular Activities: COVID-19 Safety Procedures

<p>All Practice Rooms Pupils and Staff</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ○ Pianos will be placed horizontally across the room where possible. ○ Windows will be open at all times during practice sessions. ○ Social distancing will be in place as is reasonably practical. ○ A face shield will be provided to offer additional protection between teacher and pupil, this is in addition to social distancing, which must be in place, meeting guidance distances. ○ All instrumental teachers will disinfect practice rooms touch points i.e. door handles/music stands and anything the pupil has touched between lessons. ○ Pupils should wash their hands before and after their Instrumental lesson. ○ Hand Sanitiser will also be available in each practice room. ○ Pupils wearing personal face coverings or visors will need to bring a secure bag to keep their covering and visor in when not in use. ○ If disposable face coverings are used these must be disposed of properly when use has been completed. ○ It is essential pupils see this safety equipment as part of their 'kit' along with their instrument and music. ○ If any of the necessary safety equipment is not brought to the lesson, then the lesson will not take place
<p>Violin, Cello, Guitar, Harp</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ○ Teachers will wear face coverings and/or visors throughout Instrumental lesson. ○ Where string instruments are shared they must be put out of use for 72 hours between sessions and/or sanitised between use as appropriate.
<p>Flutes, Clarinet, Oboe, Bassoon Saxophone,</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ○ Instrument should not be shared under any circumstances ○ Teachers will wear visors ○ Pupils will be required to bring a small cloth or towel to wipe condensation from their own instrument as required, this should be kept within the instrument case or in a sealed bag when not in use.
<p>Trumpet, Trombone</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ○ Instruments should not be shared under any circumstances ○ Brass lessons will take place either in the one of the larger Music Rooms at a minimum distance of 4 metres. ○ Pupils will be required to bring a small cloth or towel to wipe condensation from their own instrument as required, this should be kept within the instrument case or in a sealed bag when not in use.
<p>Percussion</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ○ Pupils will be expected to provide their own sticks/batons – labelled clearly. ○ The Instrumental teacher will be responsible for disinfecting department tools between pupils or taking them to the 'out of use' secure storage for 72 hours before re-using.
<p>Piano</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ○ A face shield should be worn to offer protection between the teacher and pupil.

	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ○ Keyboards should be sanitised at the start and end of each lesson.
Voice/Drama Performance	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ○ Teachers must wear face coverings and/or visors throughout one to one lessons where raised voices/singing takes place and social distance must be kept in line with guidance. Group practise must adhere to full social distancing rules and be kept under maximum number guidance.
Drama – Performance contact	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ○ Personal contact will not be permitted under any circumstances.
Extracurricular Activities	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ○ Singing will not take place in groups over 15. ○ One to one or small group practice should only take place where a 2-meter distance can be maintained, Visors/Face Coverings must be worn by the teacher. ○ Group brass practice can only go ahead with a minimum of 4 metres distance between pupils and teachers..
Visiting Peripatetics	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ○ All visitors will be expected to sign in and out at every visit and follow the Langley Visitors COVID-19 policy guidance, adhering to test and trace recording procedures/. Visiting Peripatetics should not be arriving on site if they or any member of their immediate household have, or are showing, symptoms of COVID-19.
Sanitising Equipment	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ○ Sanitising equipment will be provided in all music room, to include spray disinfectant and disposable paper. Used paper should be disposed of properly within the bin provided in each room. It is the responsibility of the outgoing staff member to wipe touch areas upon leaving a room before the next group access the room.
PPE	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ○ PPE will be provided to those identified as requiring it. Personal PPE can be used but should meet guidance minimum standards. ○ It is the responsibility of the user to ensure safe use, cleaning of and disposal as applicable. Where re-useable items are used, they should be stored safely in a sealed bag between use.