



DYJA C19 Update 28-January-2022

The government continues to manage the risk of serious illness from the spread of the virus. The Prime Minister announced on 19 January that the temporary introduction of Plan B is to end. As a result, the Plan B measures for out-of-school settings are to be removed. This advice remains subject to change as the situation develops.

The change in rules will mean fully vaccinated people and those under the age of 18 will no longer need to automatically self-isolate should they be contacted by the NHS Test and Trace system. They should still take a PCR test and self-isolate if the test is positive and / or they develop symptoms, but if the test is negative there is no longer a need to self-isolate.

Adults who are fully vaccinated and all children and young people aged between 5 and 18 years and 6 months identified as a contact of someone with COVID-19 are strongly advised to take a LFD test every day for 7 days and continue to attend their setting as normal, unless they have a positive test result. Daily testing of close contacts applies to all contacts who are:

- fully vaccinated adults – people who have had 2 doses of an approved vaccine
- all children and young people aged 5 to 18 years and 6 months, regardless of their vaccination status
- people who are not able to get vaccinated for medical reasons
- people taking part, or have taken part, in an approved clinical trial for a COVID-19 vaccine

Anyone not fully vaccinated, or vaccinated within the last 14 days, will still need to self-isolate if they are contacted by the NHS Test and Trace system.

NEW DYJA's COVID-19 Jazz Centre Operating Procedures to be archived

In light of lifting restrictions across the UK, from Monday 16 August, DYJA will archive its COVID-19 Centre Operating Procedures. Instead, we will move to a set of basic principles, supported by our normal risk assessment process.

The eight basic principles are:

All personnel should:

1. **Continue to stay away from your place of work if you have had a positive test or are displaying symptoms.** If a worker, student/musician, or a visitor has a new persistent cough, a high temperature or has lost their sense of taste or smell, they should self-isolate, take a PCR test and follow NHS guidance.



2. **Continue to support NHS Test and Trace** by keeping a record of all employees, students/musicians and visitors for 21 days.
3. **Carry out an appropriate COVID-19 risk assessment** and share the outcome with the workforce, students/musicians and visitors to the centre.
4. **Ensure good ventilation and adequate supply of fresh air** by keeping windows open where possible. Further guidance is available on the [HSE website](#).
5. **Maintain a good cleaning regime.** Consider how often people touch surfaces and prioritise those that are high communal touch points. Clean equipment between rehearsals/lessons and provide sufficient effective cleaning materials.
6. **Support good hand hygiene.** Continue to promote [frequent hand washing](#), use signs and posters to remind people of good handwashing techniques and ensure sufficient availability of handwashing facilities. Maintain availability of hand sanitisers at the centre, office entrances and exits for all to use.
7. **Continue to encourage sensible distancing.** Although social distancing rules (1m plus) have been removed, encouraging 1m or a little more space will still help to reduce airborne transmissions. Consider how to reduce crowding in busy areas (Green Room) and be mindful of individuals' personal space. The One-way system will not be removed and is to be strictly adhered to.
8. **Face Coverings.** In line with the latest Government Guidance issued on Thursday 27 January 2022, in England, face coverings are no longer required by law. The Government suggests that you continue to wear a face covering in crowded and enclosed spaces where you may come in to contact with other people you do not normally meet.

DYJA has successfully managed to remain a Covid free environment throughout the whole pandemic and is focused on continuing this success. To maintain this trend, face coverings will remain mandatory whilst entering and moving around the communal areas within the Centre and are only to be removed once seated within your ensemble(s). Band Managers are kindly asked to enforce this requirement.

COVID-19 is a dynamic and evolving situation and DYJA will respond swiftly and decisively to any change.

Thank you to you all for your continued support.

M Sabin – Head of Operations

