

Maritime Dance Academy

COVID19 Health and Safety Protocol

Protecting yourself and others

- Stay home if you are sick or might be sick. Follow the Public Health Agency of Canada's steps for self-assessment (Canada.ca/coronavirus)
- We have installed plexi-glass in front offices.
- We have purchased personal protective equipment and trained staff on proper use, effectiveness and limitations. These include: face shields for all staff, disposable masks for all teachers, student teachers and staff and reusable masks for teachers if needed. Reusable masks should be washed daily. Disposal masks can be hung for two days and then be used.
- We have purchased Bebbington Industries products (the same products that Nova Scotia Health Authority is using) including disinfecting hand sanitizer, Neurtrastat 32 disinfecting cleaner, N,Stat 64 disinfecting, disinfecting glass cleaner.
- We have thoroughly cleaned the facilities including having Deep Down Cleaning in to do additional cleaning.
- We are disinfecting surfaces frequently using disposable clothes and gloves.
- We will promote individual activities. No hand holding. Ballet barres will be disinfected after every class.
- Hip hop students must have indoor shoes, no outdoor shoes are to be worn in studio and theatre.
- We have removed toys and books.
- Staff will report any health and safety concerns immediately to manager or director on duty.
- Everyone entering the building is required to wear a mask. Masks are mandatory in all common areas, including halls, washrooms and change areas. Masks are optional inside studios. Masks have limitations and do not replace social distancing.
- Teach your child good cough and sneeze etiquette. Use a tissue or napkin if possible or use you elbow or sleeve (not your hands).
- Teach your child to place and remove a mask properly. Do not touch the face. Use the elastics to place the mask on the face, without touching the surface of the fabric.
- Everyone must follow the designated flow of foot traffic and respect signs and markings to encourage social distancing.
 - Starting Friday, September 18th, parents will be asked to drop off AND pick up their children at the front entrance of both locations.
 - All students and parents entering and exiting the building will be required to wear a mask in all common areas including the lobbies and to sanitize their hands with the provided sanitizer on the way in.
 - We will do our very best to ensure that the children are being released on time, but the class will not be held back from being released for kids who need to use the bathroom, wait for a sibling, need something from the dancewear store etc.
 - Parents of the New Preschool (NP), Returning Dancer (RD) and New Grade Primary/1 (first year class) are still asked to pick up their children in the studio change room at the end of class.
 - In Bedford when staff are not checking students in at the main lobby doors, one parent may escort the student to the main desk area. You may use your discretion based on the age of your child, but we do ask that you allow them to proceed to class on their own once you've reached the office area. The parent can then exit via the front door.

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- At the end of your child's class time, if you are not there to pick up your child on time, she or he will be brought back to the main office to wait and you can pick them up there. We ask that you do your best to be on time to pick up your child to avoid multiple parents having to come into the buildings for pick up.
- Do not crowd the entry way by lining up your cars in front of the entrance for drop offs and pick ups. You will need to park your car in a designated spot and your child can get in and out of the car from there. Parents of younger students will need to actually get out of their vehicles and pick up their children at the main doors at the end of the night - especially after dark. It poses a great danger risk for young students to be walking through the parking lot to their parent's car on their own.
- For the safety of teachers, staff and students, we cannot keep lost and found items at this time. All items left behind will be discarded (including dancewear, clothing, water bottles, etc)
- Everyone will be sprayed with hand sanitizer upon entering the building, students will be sprayed before entering the class and at the end of class. You may use your own product, but you must do so in our presence to show that you have done so.

Personal Hygiene

- Regularly wash your hands for at least 20 seconds with soap and warm water.
- We have provided tissues and plastic lined garbage bins in each studio and all main areas. Please put all refuse in these bins.
- No food or drinks permitted in the studio. Water bottles are acceptable for individual use only. NO sharing permitted.
- The water fountain will be closed
- We will regularly sanitize washrooms, ballet barres, stereos, door handles, light switches and other common touch surfaces.
- Teachers and staff will sanitize their area/s before leaving the workspace.
- We have set up hand hygiene stations near the entrance of each facility and in each studio, office and dancewear.
- Please remove dance clothes and wash them as soon as you get home.
- We have trained all staff on how COVID19 can spread, the risk of exposure, and proper procedures to follow including hand hygiene and other routine practices for infection control.
- We have posted signage at entrances and other areas as reminders.
- Face masks are encouraged at all times. They may be difficult to wear for the entire class/day. Please wear your mask as much as comfortably possible. Parents/caregivers are required to wear a mask.

Screening/Limits

- We are prepared to screen everyone entering the building. Screening may include temperature check and questions to ensure you do not have any symptoms of COVID19, have not been in contact with someone known to have been in contact with someone suspected or confirmed to have COVID19, have not travelled in the past 14 days or been in contact with someone who has travelled in the past 14 days.

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- Dancers (and parents/caregivers) who fall into any of the risk categories listed must self isolate for 14 days before being permitted to enter the studio. Students can attend make up classes for any classes missed.

Physical Distancing

- We will create as much distance as possible to try to maintain 2 metres of physical distancing wherever possible and safe to do so.
- We will limit the number of people allowed in the same room – each studio/theatre is a different size and will have a different capacity.
- We will evaluate the flow of movement inside the facility and establish one-way routes where appropriate to maintain physical distance.
- We will use floor markings, partitions, and other signage to assist with physical distancing measures.
- We will assign staff to dedicated work areas as much as possible, and track where they have worked to assist with contact tracing and cleaning in the event of an employee contracting COVID19.
- We have tried to stagger drop off and pick up times to reduce contact between parents/caregivers.
- We may end classes up to 10 minutes early to allow for the flow of foot traffic and cleaning between classes.
- We encourage parents/caregivers to designate the same personal to drop off and pick up each day.
- Students should arrive only 5 minutes prior to their class time.
- Students should come ready for class (dancewear on under their 'street clothes,' hair done, etc).
- There will be no congregating in the washrooms.
- We are restricting non-essential visitors:
 - New Preschool and Returning Dancer classes may have one parent enter the building with them to prepare for class, then they will be asked to leave the building. No other adults are allowed in the building at this time.
 - Exception: one adult may accompany child in for dancewear purchases.
 - BEDFORD: School aged classes: Staff will meet students in the lower foyer to screen and hand sanitize and ensure people are staggering their entrance to the building. All students will enter through the front staircase (elevator use is restricted). Staff will escort the class out through the side exit (side of building behind Sunnyview Animal Care).
 - Parents/caregivers should be waiting near the side entrance 10 minutes prior to their class end time. The elevator will not be used except for those who require it. Markings on floor AND outside to control foyer numbers.
 - CLAYTON PARK: School aged classes: Staff will meet the students in the foyer through the front doors. Staff will escort the class out the rear door. Parents/caregivers should be waiting near the rear entrance 10 minutes prior to their class end time.
 - At both locations, all students will follow the same directional flow/signage throughout the building. Students able to check-in alone should do so to minimize the number of people at the entrance.
- Parents/caregivers are reminded to maintain 2 metre distance while waiting outside and while collecting their children at the exit.

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Dancewear

- Everyone entering the Dance Wear store must wear a mask (no exceptions). If you or your child does not have a mask, we will be selling disposable masks for your convenience. Dancewear store will be limited to one student and one adult shopping at one time (siblings may shop together).
- We recommend you make an appointment using the form on our website. Walk-ins will be accepted as long as we are able to serve you safely.
- After speaking with NSHA Infectious Diseases, we have been advised to fit shoes by placing a bag over the student's foot to ensure no spread of COVID19 when trying on multiple pairs of shoes.
- We are strictly limiting the trying on of clothing and shoes. Please note your current sizes before coming to make a purchase.

Thank you for your patience and support as we navigate this together.

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