



# Covid-19 Safety Measures

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Covid-19 guidelines and requirements for live events are constantly changing - particularly with regards to the impact of the Delta variant. We are keeping a constant eye on any changes to legislation/best practice guidelines related to live indoor events both nationally and regionally. We will update these measures when necessary and communicate any changes to attendees, schools/groups, event staff, volunteers and third party providers.

## SAFETY MEASURES IN PLACE TO PROTECT MEMBERS OF THE PUBLIC

- We request that all audience members (with the exception of children under the age of 11) undertake a lateral flow test within 24 hours of attending the Festival. Any individual that returns a positive test result or is displaying any Covid symptoms **SHOULD NOT ATTEND**. This is not mandatory but expected/advised for the safety of all people attending the Festival.
- We will issue a refund for any tickets purchased (minus any booking fees levied by our agent) if we are notified of a positive test result or of Covid symptoms via email before the event begins. If you do receive a positive test please email [hello@yorkshireschoolsdancefestival.co.uk](mailto:hello@yorkshireschoolsdancefestival.co.uk) with the subject line 'Covid Positive'.
- While we can't legally enforce the wearing of face coverings, we will ask that audience members wear a face covering, unless they are medically exempt, when moving around inside the venue. This will be clearly communicated both at the time of booking and through signage at the venue.
- There will be no requirement to wear a face covering during the performance but respect the right of individuals to do so if they feel more comfortable wearing one.
- Despite no requirement to do so, we will implement a socially distanced seating arrangement for the audience which will mean that there will be a vacant seat on either side of an individual or group booking.
- We will implement an e-ticket system to minimise any physical contact.
- Members of the public are encouraged to use contactless payment methods when purchasing refreshments, photographs or hoodies.

- We will manage the flow of audience members into the venue to minimise queuing.
- Hand sanitiser points will be available in and around the venue and associated spaces being used for the event.
- The auditorium has mechanical supply and extract ventilation automatically controlled to provide fresh air into the space.
- We will implement a testing schedule/checklist for event staff and volunteers. All event staff and volunteers will be required to provide evidence of a negative lateral flow test taken within 24 hours of each Festival day they are working. They will be required to undertake this prior to travelling to the venue or asked to leave if they are unable to provide evidence of a negative result on arrival. Similarly, a procedure has been established for anyone who displays any Covid symptoms whilst at the event.
- Event staff and volunteers will wear face coverings when interacting with members of the public.
- We will work with the venue to ensure that enhanced cleaning is carried out between performances.

## **SAFETY MEASURES IN PLACE TO PROTECT STAFF, CHILDREN & YOUNG PEOPLE**

- To ensure that appropriate social distancing between schools/groups is maintained at all times we have reduced the number of schools/groups performing in the Festival by 50%.
- We have increased the number of rooms/buildings we normally use to accommodate performers and their accompanying supervising adults between arrival at the venue and the start of the Festival.
- We will allocate each school/group a dedicated space upon their arrival at the venue and before the Festival.
- We will maintain one row of empty seats between participating schools and groups within the auditorium
- We will manage the movement of schools and groups into the auditorium to minimise contact with other performers
- We ask that all teachers and/or supervising adults take a lateral flow test within 24 hours of the Festival. In the event of a positive test result the individual must not attend the

event. If an individual displays any Covid symptoms they should not attend the event. It is the responsibility of the school/college to ensure their staff undertake an LFT test as per our policy and, if applicable, to find a suitable replacement supervising adult to maintain an appropriate child/adult supervision ratio.

- We ask that all secondary school aged children/young people take a lateral flow test within 24 hours of the Event and present evidence of a negative result to a member of staff from the school/group either upon arrival at the venue (if travelling independently) or before departure from the school/dance school venue if the group are travelling together. If an individual displays any Covid symptoms they should not attend the event. The member of staff must be satisfied that all individuals will not present a risk to others.
- There is currently no requirement for primary aged children to take a lateral flow test. However, we would recommend that the school/group liaise with parents to either suggest the use of a lateral flow test at home or make them aware that their child must not take part if they are displaying any symptoms. The member of staff must be satisfied that all individuals will not present a risk to others.
- We ask that performers and supervising adults/staff minimise movement out of the area designated to them between arrival and the event. Any movement should be overseen by a supervising adult/member of staff.
- The children and young people performing at the event and supervising staff will be asked to wear a face covering, unless they are medically exempt, when moving around inside the venue and associated buildings.
- We are unable to allocate dedicated toilets for each group so ask supervising adults to ensure that children and young people maintain good personal hygiene and wash their hands regularly in accordance with good practice guidelines.
- We will undertake enhanced cleaning in all back of house spaces.
- Workshops and performances will be delivered each morning/afternoon. Workshop leaders and performers will maintain a 2 metre distance between themselves and the school/group. Performers/workshop leaders will be asked to take a lateral flow test within 24 hours of the event and, in the event of a positive test result or displaying Covid symptoms, not to attend the event.

In addition to our generic Festival Risk Assessment, a COVID-19 risk assessment has been produced. This will be issued to schools ahead of the event with the expectation that it is incorporated into their own risk assessments and policy procedures.

We are working closely with the University of York to ensure cohesive delivery in respect to their own policies surrounding Covid-19.