



COVID Secure Peripatetic Music Lessons in DASP Schools (04/09/20)

This guidance has been put together by DASP Music and has been compiled by consulting the Government's "Guidance for Full Opening: Schools" updated on 28th August 2020. It has also taken into consideration Music Mark's guidance issued on 2nd September 2020. The guidance clearly states that "Schools can continue to engage peripatetic teachers during this period, including staff from music education hubs." Therefore, the following guidance has been put together to minimise the risk in order for peripatetic music lessons to resume in the DASP schools.

1. Lessons for all instruments and singing may resume.
2. Lessons must take place in a room that allows for adequate social distancing (1m+) and is also adequately ventilated (ideally with an open window at all times). For brass, saxophone and flute lessons, 2m social distancing is preferred.
3. Lessons should be on an individual basis. The only exception to this will be if the teaching space allows for more pupils to adequately social distance and if the pupils in the group are part of the same 'bubble' (please liaise directly with individual schools about this). To prevent the cost of individual lessons becoming a prohibitive factor, teachers should be flexible to allow shorter or less frequent lessons. This should be done in consultation with parents.
4. Teachers and pupils should stand side-by-side for the duration of the lesson (rather than face-to-face) and maintain the 1m+ social distancing at all times. Care should be taken that the bells of wind and brass instruments are held away from each other. Teachers may need to consider bringing extra props to lessons in order to allow for social distancing, such as mini keyboard for demonstrations and pointing sticks for pointing at sheet music.
5. All pupils must bring their own sheet music, pencil and teaching notebook to the lessons (equipment should not be shared between teacher and pupil).
6. Pupils and teachers must use hand-sanitiser (with minimum 60% alcohol) at the start of each lesson.
7. Piano teachers must wipe the keys of the piano with antibacterial wipes (with minimum 60% alcohol) before the start of each new lesson. The same should be done with any chairs and music stands that come into contact with pupils.
8. As an added measure, woodwind and brass players should attach a small piece of cotton fabric (perhaps with an elastic band) over the bell of their instrument, in order to further contain the rate of aerosol transmission. (This is obviously not applicable to flautists).

DASP Music is a registered charity (CIO) No. 1162919

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9. Brass players will need to bring antibacterial wipes (with minimum 60% alcohol) with them to lessons, in order to allow the 'water' out of their instrument onto a safe surface. The wipe should then be thrown away at the end of the lesson.
10. Instruments should not be shared and each individual must be responsible for cleaning and putting away their own instrument.
11. Teachers and Pupils must be mindful of touching door handles in order to enter a music lesson. We recommend that the pupil knocks on the door and only the teacher touches the door handle. This can then be wiped down by the teacher when they leave the premises.
12. Pupils in the middle schools and at Hardyes must be responsible for remembering to attend their music lesson without being collected by their music teacher. A cheap digital watch with an alarm is an excellent tool to help with this.
13. Teachers and pupils may wear face-masks if they feel it is appropriate (although obviously not when playing wind/brass/singing).

DASP Music appreciates that some teachers and pupils may not feel able to return to in-school music lessons yet and we would ask all parties to be sympathetic to the needs of all during this continuing unprecedented time. For the time being, it is likely that a mixture of in-school and online lessons will continue to be offered by the DASP Music teachers.

If you have any queries or concerns, please contact Hanna Trevorrow, Head of DASP Music (htrevorrow@thomas-hardye.net).

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