

Return to Dance Guidance

Webinar 5 'Considerations for children and young people returning to dance

One Dance UK

4th August 2020

Host: Erin Sanchez

Chair: Laura Nicholson

Panellists: Amy Williams, Tori Drew

Live Q&A

1. Time Point: 42:19

Q. Any advice on moving students from the barre to the centre in terms of cleaning?

A. [TD] We cannot direct this to anything specific within the guidance. However, you may consider cleaning prop equipment at the beginning as well as at the end of class. You could perhaps incorporate this process as part of the dance movement.

2. Time Point: 43:59

Q. For cleaning floors, can we use a Dettol type spray for use in between classes, or do we need to use a mop? Are foggers recommended to sanitise studios between classes?

A. [ES] Regular cleaning products are recommended – mopping, or the use of general household cleaning products would be fine, according to guidance. Be aware of slip hazards between classes, and try to ensure that any products you use will not increase the slipperiness or stickiness of the floor – this is a consideration for safe dance practice to avoid injury. Consider cleaning the edges, as well as the centre of the floor. Previous webinars have discussed the possibility that there may be a greater landing of droplets towards the edges of the room. This is not specifically stated in the guidance and is not a requirement.

There is no evidence, or stipulation in the guidance to suggest that foggers should be used. The key focus is currently on maximising ventilation within the room.

3. Time Point: 46:15

Q. When working with disabled young people who also need a carer, do the numbers need to be even lower? Do the carers count in the number/ratio of that bubble?

A. [TD] A good place to look for information around this subject would be the SEND school guidance. In this guidance it is stated that there is a clear need for carers to be there, and it is likely that a 2m distance will not be able to be maintained between the student and their carer. Often in SEN classes, numbers will be smaller anyway. SEND school guidance should be cross-referenced with the out of school guidance, and other risk mitigations, such as masks and shields should be thought about.

4. Time Point: 47:41

Q. Can out of school settings activity happen from September? Are current guidelines only for the summer holidays, and so is this something that we're still waiting for?

A. [LN] As far as I am aware the guidance in place at the moment only runs up until the end of the summer holidays. We anticipate that there will be some updated guidance on that that should likely allow activity to continue.

5. Time Point: 48:26

Q. Is blended learning the same as a hybrid offer?

A. [LN] Yes. This terminology means the same thing and refers to having a mix of in-person and online provision. Lots of organisations are putting in place contingency plans in which there are a range of learning possibilities/opportunities available.

6. Time Point: 49:20

Q. This question is around the numbers in a studio or building when teaching children and young people. Should we be following gym ventilation guidelines around 100 square foot per person, especially if you run a studio or hire a community centre.

A. [TD] This will be specific to your context and situation. If you own your own studio, you should refer to the grassroots sports and leisure guidance to work out how many people you are allowed to have in your space - this is all to do with ventilation. UK active also provide guidance around how to calculate this figure. If you are hiring a space however, it is the space owner's responsibility to tell you how many people can access that space/ are allowed to be in the building. If there are other people utilising space in the same building, this may mean that the number of people allowed in your class may be reduced to account for others also occupying the building.

7. Time Point: 51:10

Q. Can you confirm requirements around first aid?

A. [AW] If you need to administer first aid, this is priority. You are not expected to maintain social distancing in those circumstances. This should depend on the severity of the situation however – if you are able to keep your distance and instruct the injured student to do certain things, this would be best. Wear a mask and gloves if possible. First priority is dealing with the incident.

8. Time Point: 52:00

Q. Regarding bubbles, I am a lone dance teacher running a dance school, am I able to teach multiple groups, and if so, would this make me a possible spreader?

A. [AW] You are able to teach across different bubbles. In this case, you should ensure that you keep at least a 2m distance, and consider other risk mitigations such as wearing a mask or a visor, or teaching facing away from students. You must not pop bubbles!

9. Time Point: 53:10

Q. Regarding face masks, when new guidelines come into force from the 8th August stipulating that face masks should be worn in most indoor settings, does that apply to dance teachers teaching in community settings?

A. [ES] As of yet there has been no clarity as to whether face masks will be required in community settings in the context of dance. Currently, there is no mandatory requirement to wear a mask, whether you are a teacher or a dancer, in a professional or a non-professional setting. We would suggest a risk mitigation strategy to reduce to chances of transmission. [LN] If you are working in a school setting you should also check the Department for Education guidance, as well as any specific guidance laid out by your school.

10. Time Point: 54:58

Q. Because of social distancing we need to increase the number of hours we hire our community hall. Is there any financial support for this available from the government?

A. [LN] We are not currently aware of any specific pots of money for this. The government website however lists all avenues for support available for business and individuals.

11. Time Point: 55:37

Q. Do you feel that recognised dance teaching associations may now adapt their syllabi?

A. [AW] You should refer to your dance organisation, awarding body or exam board - they should be able to provide guidance on this and make you aware of any potential adaptations that may be made to syllabi.

12. Time Point: 56:16

Q. Can I teach a number of different classes on the same day in a school? Can I come into contact with different bubbles of children as long as I maintain social distance?

A. [TD] This is at the discretion of the school. Remember to keep your distance and don't pop bubbles. In terms of going into different schools, this would be at each individual schools' discretion – it may be worth notifying each of the schools you work within of your circumstances. Consider necessary risk mitigations.