

Damien Poole Theatre Arts
Harrogate Grammar School
Arthurs Avenue
HG2 0DZ

COVID-19 POLICY SEPTEMBER 2020

This policy can be sent to anyone wishing to read it in larger text, posted, or on coloured paper.

We intend to do our utmost best to protect our students, their families and our faculty during these challenging times, and so have read countless legislation, rulings, suggestions and have liaised with other schools to ensure we are as up to date with our information as we possibly can.

We are taking advice from Harrogate Grammar School, the Government, and several dance teaching associations about how we can once again teach face to face in studio settings in-line with current regulations.

- If a student has any symptoms of Covid-19 they must not attend the studio classes under any circumstance -

Below we have laid out measures that aim to adhere to current government guidelines, this information is subject to change, we will update regularly with any slight change to the regulations and ensure it is available to you and to HGS.

Measures we are taking to make the studio safe

The size of the building/studio is a major factor of how many students can safely work with social distancing measures accounted for.

Harrogate Grammar School have already adhered to the relevant measurements and safety checks required by government and have confirmed up to 30 students can be safely allowed in the **GYM 2** studio and the **MAIN HALL**. The **LIBRARY THEATRE** shall only allow 16 persons at one time.

THE NUMBER OF PEOPLE

- In line with the current legislation, only 15 children (under 18 years) can/will be in one enclosed space at one time.
- The changing rooms within GYM2 shall only allow 6 students in the space at one time.
- Only 1 person in each toilet area (toilet/sink x 2) shall be allowed at any one time.

- Despite the space confirmed as safely able to hold 30 students, DPTA shall never allow more than 20 persons in any one space. (including faculty members) (never more than 15 children under 18)

CLEANING AND CLEANLINESS

- There shall be 10/15 minutes between EVERY class at DPTA. This gives the parents enough time to pick up their child safely from outside the studio, waiting underneath the roofed walkway. This time between classes also takes pressure off the main car park, plus enabling social distancing throughout.

Children (under 18) shall very formally leave the studio space with the help of the teacher, in order to allow social distancing throughout entry and exit.

- Provided by Harrogate Grammar School are hand sanitiser stations located at every entrance/exit in the school. DPTA shall also provide hand sanitiser in the toilets, alongside the soap in the toilet and changing areas. We shall ask everyone entering any studio space to sanitise their hands immediately, as well as exiting.
- In every 10/15 minute gap between classes, all surfaces that are 'red spot areas' shall be wiped down and cleaned, ready for the next class.
- The spaces are very large and so air circulation is good. Despite this, all windows shall be kept open to whatever extent is necessary to ensure our students feel comfortable and safe. The space can and will become cold due to the air circulation of open windows, please bring a warm jumper or a jacket to class for warmth and comfort.

FIRST AID

- DPTA's current first aider is DAMIEN POOLE, alongside the onsite staff who are on site throughout the DPTA timetable. If for any reason a student requires first aid, the first aider shall wear a mask whilst administered. A first aid kit is always in the room where any DPTA class is being led.

QR CODE

- Legally we must provide a QR code for anyone aged 18 or over to scan on their arrival if they are taking part in classes at DPTA. Adults dropping off children under 18 outside do NOT have to scan the QR code.

ATTENDING CLASSES

- Unfortunately, the only parents/carers allowed into the studio spaces are those whose children are attending the ADVENTURERS class. (aged 4,5 and 6)
ALL other parent's of students are to drop their child off at the front door of the studio spaces, and to pick up at the front door of the studio space.
- For every class, there shall be non slip 'SPOTS' that are social distanced (2 metres) in the studio, set up and ready before students arrive to ensure social distancing is

adhered to. There shall be no corner work this term, and choreography shall be kept within individual spaces. The only travelling movement shall be social distant and front one side on the room to another, nobody shall be travelling through another persons air space as suggested by government legislation.

- We ask that student's ensure they are as dressed for class as is possible. There shall be space around the outside areas of the room to drop water bottles/ medication etc, closest to their spots. Please bring as little to class as possible.
- Singing in group situations is allowed in current legislation, so singing classes are to be held in studio and zoom live throughout this term.
- We ask that students walk AROUND the hall, do not walk through it unless you are walking to your chosen 'spot' on the floor.
- All of our staff have been given every bit of information regarding our policies and are trained fully in the procedures. We intend to be strict with policy, but calm and supportive at all times.

WHAT TO WEAR

- Please if possible change at home and only come to class with the essentials required for your class, please wear your usual uniform t-shirt and a hoodie is suggested to keep warm.

HAIR

- We ask that all hair is secured away from the face in order to avoid touching of the face.

MENTAL HEALTH

- We have done our best to ensure our students feel safe returning back to the studio.

We understand tensions are high and everyone is coping with this time in our lives differently. We will do our very best to ensure classes are enjoyable and of the same high standard that our students and parents have become used to at DPTA.

Damien Poole is our faculty student advisor should anyone wish to talk to us about any worries they wish to talk about regarding current situations or for anything that may be worrying them.

We understand that safety is of high importance to parents, we know you are trusting us to keep your children safe, we very much rise to the challenge and wish to ensure you we have done our very best to ensure safety is paramount to every faculty member.

If your child has suffered mentally during this difficult time and finds procedure difficult, please tell us and we will do our utmost to make DPTA classes feel calm and safe and enjoyable.

SECOND LOCKDOWN

- We shall respect our Governments future legislation should a second lockdown occur, we have kept our DPTA Goes OnLine Timetable running alongside our Studio timetable for this very reason, ensuring a smooth transition to all classes online can happen safely and efficiently, knowing that these classes work beautifully during difficult times.

You shall be told as quickly as possible should classes be cancelled or confirmed as stopping should a situation like this arrive again.

- If your child is showing ANY Covid-19 symptoms, please DO NOT bring your child to class, they are able to take part in any OnLine classes instead until they are better, and any progress made in classes they have missed shall be recorded and sent to them.

COMMENTS AND CONCERNS

- We respect your worries and we respect your questions. If you have anything you wish to ask or query, please e-mail damien@dpta.co.uk

DAMIEN POOLE - DIRECTOR OF DAMIEN POOLE THEATRE ARTS