

# 2 DA STAGE PERFORMING ARTS & CHILDCARE CLUB

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## COVID-19 POLICY

2 Da Stage Performing Arts & Childcare Club recognises the importance of advanced planning in order to maintain services and limit the spread of the new coronavirus, known as Covid-19, within our setting. Covid-19 is a viral infection similar to flu, spread from person to person by close contact. It typically causes fever and a dry cough, and in some cases may progress to viral pneumonia which cannot be treated by antibiotics. Symptoms of Covid-19 can include:

- Continuous new cough
- High temperature
- Loss of or change in normal senses of taste or smell
- Tiredness
- Difficulty breathing

The initial symptoms are not dissimilar to other colds and flu-type illnesses, but the combination of a recent onset of fever and a new continuous cough seem to be present in many cases of Covid-19.

### **When an individual develops COVID-19 symptoms or has a positive test**

Children, staff and other adults must not come into the club if:

- they have one or more [COVID-19 symptoms](#)
- a member of their household (including someone in their [support bubble](#) or [childcare bubble](#) if they have one) has COVID-19 symptoms
- they are legally required to [quarantine, having recently visited countries outside the Common Travel Area](#)
- they have had a positive test
- have been in close contact with someone who tests positive for COVID-19

They must immediately cease to attend and not attend for at least 10 days from the day after:

- the start of their symptoms
- the test date if they did not have any symptoms but have had a positive LFD or PCR test (if an LFD test is taken first, and a PCR test is then taken within 2 days of the positive lateral flow test, and is negative, it overrides the LFD test and the pupil can return to school)

## **Infection or suspected infection whilst at the club**

Any child who becomes ill with symptoms which could be Covid-19 while at the Club will be isolated from the other children until the child can be collected by his or her parents.

- they will be moved, if possible, to a room where they can be isolated behind a closed door with an adult supervising them.
- a window will be opened for fresh air ventilation if it is safe to do so.
- if it is not possible to isolate them, they will be moved to an area which is at least 2 metres away from other people
- if they need to go to the bathroom while waiting to be collected, they will use a separate bathroom if possible - the bathroom will be cleaned and disinfected using standard cleaning products before being used by anyone else
- personal protective equipment (PPE) will be worn by staff caring for the child while they await collection if a distance of 2 metres cannot be maintained (such as for a very young child or a child with complex needs).

If any staff or children experience a recent onset of a new continuous cough and/or a high temperature – even if they have not been to a high-risk area or been in contact with anyone who has – they must stay at home and self-isolate for 14 days, even if the symptoms are mild.

## **Infection control**

Like the common cold and flu viruses, Covid-19 is spread by:

- Infected people passing the virus to others through large droplets when coughing, sneezing, or even talking within a close distance.
- Direct contact with an infected person: for example, if you shake or hold their hand, and then touch your own mouth, eyes or nose without first washing your hands.
- Touching objects (eg door handles, light switches) that have previously been touched by an infected person, then touching your own mouth, eyes or nose without first washing your hands. Viruses can survive longer on hard surfaces than on soft or absorbent surfaces.

We will limit the risk of catching or spreading Covid-19 at the Club by:

- Regular handwashing by staff and children
- Minimising contact between our hands and mouth/nose
- Covering nose and mouth when coughing or sneezing; using a tissue whenever possible; disposing of the tissue promptly and carefully (bag it and bin it); washing hands afterwards
- Cleaning hard surfaces (e.g. door handles, light-switches, tables, etc) with sanitizer frequently
- Encouraging the children at the Club to follow the guidance above
- Instructing staff to remain at home if they display any relevant symptoms, or sending them home if they first display symptoms while at work.

We will promote infection control through the methods above, and in addition we will:

- Display posters and information to promote infection control
- Ensure that adequate supplies of cleaning materials and protective equipment (eg disposable gloves and aprons) are available within the Club

- Dispose of waste promptly and hygienically
- Provide tissues and suitable facilities for their disposal.

### **Closure**

The latest advice is that closing individual settings is of limited benefit in stopping the spread of the disease. However, there may be some occasions when we will have to consider temporarily closing the Club because we have too few unaffected staff to run sessions safely.

The Club will also have to close if advised to do so by the local authority or Health Protection Team in the interest of safeguarding the children in our care. In the event of closure, the manager will notify parents or carers as soon as possible. The manager will also notify Ofsted of the closure.

### **Advance planning**

In preparation for dealing with Covid-19, the Club will ensure that all contact details for staff, children and parents are up to date. This is managed through ClubsBuddy.