



# Blue Dog Dance and Performing Arts Information and Adaptations for the 2020-2021 Year During the Covid-19 Outbreak

## Overview

*With the spread of COVID-19, Blue Dog Dance is committed to vigilance in all procedures to mitigate the spread.*

Our policies and procedures are based on information from the Washington State Health Department and King County Public Health. We also look to guidance and recommendations from the CDC and OSHA.

## Main Guidance for Studio

1 – No person is allowed in the studio if they:

- Are showing symptoms of COVID-19
- Have been in close contact with someone who has confirmed or suspected COVID-19 in the last 14 days – excluding health care providers and EMS workers who wore proper personal protective equipment.
- Have traveled to or have any household member who has travelled to a country, state or county identified as a hotspot for COVID-19

2 – All persons entering the studio will enter wearing a cloth facial covering

3 – All persons entering the studio will follow all signage and instructions from staff members.

4 – All staff members will be trained on health and safety protocols including:

- How to screen for symptoms
- Hand hygiene
- Maintaining physical distance
- What to do if someone develops signs of COVID-19
- Studio protocols

## Signage and Information

Please notice and adhere to all signage at the studio, especially those at the entrance.

We use email as our primary communication vehicle. Families are to keep current on all email notifications.

## Drop-off

Please arrive no more than 5 minutes before your class or program start time.

Please follow entering instructions. Main studio will use one door for entering and one door for exiting. The corner studio will have the staff member open and close the door.

When entering, students will be wearing a mask, answer daily wellness questions, take a touchless temperature and sanitize hands. Any person with a temperature of 100.4 or over will not be able to join class or program.

### **Masks**

All students must be able to take off and put on their mask without staff assistance.

*For information regarding masks, see*

### **Pick-Up**

Please be prompt for pick-up. Please follow exiting procedures. If students are able, please allow them to go directly to the car.

### **Scheduling**

Classes are staggered. Studio rooms have 15 minutes between classes for cleaning and to keep lobby capacity limited.

## **Physical Distancing**

### **Studio and Lobby Space**

Studios are divided to mark physically distant spaces for participants. Please refrain from moving chairs in the lobby. Please maintain physical distance of at least 6 feet while in the lobby.

### **Class Size**

Studios are limited to 9 dance students per dance class. Camp and other programming is limited to 10 participants per studio.

### **Virtual Accessibility for Classes**

All dance classes can be accessed virtually. Dance classes may be split into 2 groups with one group in physical attendance and the other in virtual attendance. This will reduce the number of students in the studio. This option will be implemented in the beginning of the school year and whenever is necessary to follow local health guidelines. Blue Dog Dance may also implement this option on their own accord.

### **Outdoor Breaks**

Classes and program may incorporate outdoor breaks. Students are to remain physically distant during these breaks.

## **Reducing Transmission**

**Props**

There will be no shared props in class. Students will use individually designated ballet barre areas if necessary. Students may be asked to bring an item from home which will not be shared.

**Water Bottles**

Students may bring a filled water bottle. There is no water station at the studio. Any water bottle left at the studio will be disposed at the end of the day. Students will need to operate their own water bottle without assistance from staff members.

**Bathroom Use**

Students are encouraged to use bathrooms at home before coming to class. Bathroom use is allowed; however, waiting by the bathroom door will not be allowed. Students cannot use the bathroom as a changing room. Students must come to the studio in attire ready for class or program.

**Food**

Only staff members are permitted to have food at the studio. They are to eat only during classroom breaks when alone in a studio. Desk staff can eat when they are the only person in the lobby.

**Cleaning and Disinfecting****Hygiene Practices**

All staff members will wash their hands when entering the studio. Students and parents are to use the hand sanitizer when entering the studio. Students will be asked to wash hands after sneezing. Students are encouraged to use hand sanitizer when leaving the studio.

**Air Purification**

The lobby and all studio rooms have an ionic air purification system to break down viruses, bacteria and molds.

**Lobby**

Lobby surfaces will be disinfected regularly throughout the day. Wipes will be used for frequently touches surfaces. We will also use a non-toxic disinfectant (sodium hypochlorite) for the entire space as extra precaution.

**Studio Disinfecting Between Classes**

After each class, staff will disinfect all frequently touched surfaces as well as do a general sanitization. We will also use a non-toxic disinfectant (sodium hypochlorite) for the entire space as extra precaution.

**Cleaning Schedule**

Once a day the entire facility will be cleaned to maximize disinfecting efforts. Additionally, all spaces will be ventilated to their maximum potential.

## **Guidelines**

### **If Someone Develops Signs of COVID-19**

If a student or staff member develops signs of COVID-19, that person will leave immediately or be separated away from others until picked-up. The area the person was in will be vacated for cleaning and disinfecting. The person with symptoms should follow Washington State Department of Health's guidance for what to do. The person can return to the facility when he/she has been 24-hour without a fever and has been 10 days since first signs showed up or has a note from a health care provider.

### **Scenarios**

Please refer to our posted policies for scenarios of students or staff members having symptoms of or testing positive with COVID-19.

Once it is known that a person in our facility tested positive for Covid-19, the following steps will be taken along with any additional guidance from local health agencies.

- Blue Dog Dance will inform any student or staff member if a participant who has been physically present in the studio has tested positive for COVID-19 and the student or staff member may have come into contact with this individual.
- Blue Dog Dance will ask all those who have possibly been exposed to COVID-19 to self-quarantine for 14 calendar days. Those asked to self-quarantine are encouraged to reach out to their health care provider for further instructions. Those asked to self-quarantine will be asked to contact Blue Dog Dance as soon as possible if they begin to experience symptoms of COVID-19.
- At the end of a 14-day self-quarantine, Blue Dog Dance will confirm with student or staff member to confirm ability to attend class.
- Blue Dog Dance will immediately proceed with all proper disinfection protocols per the CDC. This may include a temporary closure of the facility.
- Blue Dog Dance will not identify an infected person by name.

## **Updates**

The information about COVID-19 and policies to reduce the transmission is evolving. We will continually be seeking the most current information from local government and health agencies and make any and all adjustments immediately.

## **Blue Dog Adaptations during COVID-19**

### **Lobby**

The lobby will now be restricted to students, staff and one parent per younger dancer if necessary. There will be no waiting in the lobby unless requested by Blue Dog Dance staff. There will be no eating in the lobby. Students cannot wait in the lobby in between classes.

### **Unnecessary Items**

Students are not to bring any unnecessary items and extra clothing to the studio. Only bring items appropriate for the class or program attending. Dance students should arrive in dance attire. Participants are encouraged to have one bag of items limited to dance shoes, water bottle, coat and extra mask. Reducing unnecessary items in the studio helps reduce potential transmission of COVID-19

### **Water**

There is no longer a water station available. Student should bring their own water if desired.

### **Lost and Found**

There will no longer be a lost and found. If something is labeled, we will contact the person to pick up the item by the end of the day. Any item left at the studio will be discarded during the nightly cleaning.

### **Class Activities**

There will be no partner activities. There will be no physical touching (high-fives, hugs, physical maneuvering while teaching, etc.).

### **Pivoting to Virtual**

All in-studio dance classes will remain consistent by the ability to quickly become virtual. While we will give as much notice as possible, all classes have the potential to be virtual with an hour notice. If programs are able to operate virtually, all tuition will remain the same. If programs are not able to operate virtually a credit or refund will be offered.

## **RESOURCES**

Information on Face Masks:

<https://www.doh.wa.gov/Portals/1/Documents/1600/coronavirus/ClothFacemasks.pdf>

Information on Testing for COVID-19:

<https://www.doh.wa.gov/Emergencies/NovelCoronavirusOutbreak2020COVID19/TestingforCOVID19>

King County COVID-19 Information:

<https://www.kingcounty.gov/depts/health/covid-19.aspx>

Washington State Department of Health Covid-19 Information:

<https://www.doh.wa.gov/emergencies/coronavirus>

Washington State Coronavirus Response:

<https://www.doh.wa.gov/emergencies/coronavirus>

CDC COVID-19 Information:

<https://www.cdc.gov/coronavirus/2019-ncov/index.html>

Information about Stigma Reduction

<https://www.doh.wa.gov/Emergencies/NovelCoronavirusOutbreak2020COVID19/StigmaReduction>

WA State Dept of Health hotline: 1-800-525-0127