



Policies & Procedures for Safe Season 20-21

The following guidelines are based on government regulations and our medical advisory committee. The medical advisory committee is comprised of medical professionals who are also VDS dance parents with children of various ages. They have provided guidance, recommendations, and direction on the necessary precautions we need to take in order to keep our dancers, families, and staff safe. Please take a minute to read through these plans in order to familiarize yourself and your dancer with our procedures. We ask that parents of younger students have a conversation with their child prior to their first dance class back discussing the new rules and expectations regarding social distancing, wearing a mask, and keeping their hands to themselves.

1. The lobby/waiting area for parents is closed, with some exceptions:
 - Parents will be allowed in the building (wearing a mask) to ask questions, make payments at the front desk, or use the restroom.
 - Parents of dancers under 8 years old or those who are new to the studio may accompany their dancer in the lobby and stay for 10 minutes to watch the beginning of their child's class to make sure they are settled. They are encouraged to come help get their kids from the lobby after class as well.
 - * Parents of younger children are encouraged to remain onsite in the parking lot the first week or two in case their dancer has any separation or behavior issues.
 - All other parents and siblings may wait in their cars, sit outside, or they are welcome to leave.
 - If adults must come in the building they are required to wear a mask.
 - The building will have a one way flow entering through the front door and exiting the back door.
 - Note: Week 1 will have announcements for all parents– prior to classes beginning you will receive an email with details on this
2. Dancers age 5 and up are **required** to wear masks. Younger dancers are also **encouraged** to wear masks. All staff, assistants, and adults are **required** to wear masks. **Knowing that dancers will be exerting physical energy while wearing face masks the staff will be adjusting lesson plans (particularly for our int/adv classes) and opening outside doors in Studio A & C, when weather allows, to help ensure dancers safety.* If you or your dancer forgets their mask, a disposable mask is available for \$1 at the front desk.
3. Dancers are required to sanitize their hands upon entering the studios. Hand sanitizer will be given by the teacher or trained assistant when they enter the studio.
4. Dancers need to arrive to the studio in dance clothes. Dancers are encouraged to wear a cover-up to and from the building as desired. Dancers may put their street shoes in a cubby in the lobby and hang up any jackets.
5. Upon entering the classroom, dancers will be directed to stand on a **YELLOW X** in the studio or at a **YELLOW dash** at the barre. These spaces are all marked 6 feet apart.
6. Parents must conduct their own health assessment of their dancer prior to arriving at VDS. This includes taking temperatures and assessing all COVID-19 symptoms. Dancers may not enter the facility if they are exhibiting any symptoms, are awaiting a COVID test result, or have been knowingly exposed to COVID-19.
7. There will be no physical contact between dancers at any time during normal classes and they must maintain their social distance of 6 feet+ while in the building. **Any dancer who cannot follow the social distancing guidelines will be asked to leave the building and parents will be notified.**

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8. The drinking fountain will be closed until further notice. Dancers are encouraged to bring their own personal water bottle from home which they will place at the front of the room or near their barre spot. Keep in mind there will be no place to refill water bottles so dancers may need to use a bigger water bottle than they are used to.
9. There will be limited use of props and no sharing/switching of items when they are used. All props (scarves, tambourines, ribbon wands, etc.) will be thoroughly washed between each individual use.
10. Teachers will be changing up their typical use of tumbling mats for young classes. Instead of going down the length of the tumbling mat, we have divided each mat into 4 sections. Dancers will tumble the width of the mat. This gives each dancer their own "section" of the mat that will not be used by anyone before or after them. The tumbling mats will be cleaned between each new use.
11. When parents aren't present, staff and/or trained assistants will escort dancers out of the studio building after class. They will take them out the back door, down the outside hallway to the front sidewalk (near VDS parking spaces) and will meet parents outside to retrieve their kids. **The building will have a one way flow entering through the front door and exiting the back door.**
12. Dancers (8yrs+) who have a break between classes may wait in the lobby or the empty studio (if one is available) as long as they maintain a safe social distance. Int/adv dancers are welcome to go outside (using the backdoor) to get some fresh air and then re-enter using the front door. If dancers can not safely socially distance we will ask them to wait in their parents car between classes.
13. Studio A & C will open outside doors, weather permitting, to improve air quality and circulation.
14. All touched surfaces (door handles, ballet barres, poly spots, etc) will be cleaned between each class.
15. Zoom options are available on a case by case basis. Please contact Traci@VillageDanceStudio.com if you would like more information.
16. If a student, staff, or assistant tests positive for COVID-19, they are asked to immediately notify the studio by emailing Traci@VillageDanceStudio.com. All people who have been within 6 feet of this dancer for more than 15 minutes (as defined by the CDC) will be notified of potential exposure ASAP.

**Thank you for your continued patience and understanding through all of these changes and policies.
We appreciate everyone's commitment to safety, and we can't wait to see you in class!**



Questions? Please email Traci@VillageDanceStudio.com