



THAMES VALLEY
MUSIC
SCHOOL
AT CONNECTICUT COLLEGE

Thames Valley Music School will enforce the following policy in response to the ongoing Covid-19 pandemic. Thames Valley Music School reserves the right to revise the policy as necessary based on needs and the recommendations put forth by the CDC and other organizations. Our number one priority is the safety of our staff, students, and families. All staff, students and family will adhere to the following guidelines.

- ❖ Face coverings must always be worn throughout the building.
- ❖ Only one adult may accompany students inside the building for lessons.
- ❖ If you or your child has had any of the following symptoms or taken fever reducing medicine in the past 24 hours, please call and cancel your lesson. Please refrain from attending if you exhibit any of the COVID-19 symptoms as noted by the CDC. Symptoms include cough, shortness of breath or difficulty breathing, or at least two of these symptoms: fever, chills, repeated shaking with chills, muscle pain, headache, and sore throat, new loss of taste or smell.
- ❖ If you or your child has been diagnosed for Covid-19 or come into contact with someone diagnosed with Covid-19 please contact us immediately.
- ❖ Hands must be washed prior to lessons.
- ❖ Hand sanitizer will be provided in every classroom. It will be used prior to and immediately following lessons by the teacher, student, and any accompanying parent.
- ❖ All music stands, pianos, and door handles will be cleaned between each student by the teacher.
- ❖ Students should arrive to all lessons prepared with music, instruments, and a writing utensil.
- ❖ We ask students to not enter the building until 5 minutes prior to lesson time.
- ❖ There will be a building/room sign in sheet that will be filled out documenting who was present for the lesson in order to contact trace if necessary.

The following are additional guidelines based on your instrument.

Strings, Piano, Percussion

- ❖ All students, teachers, and parents/guardians must always wear a mask for the entirety of lessons.
- ❖ All efforts will be made to maintain a 6 ft distance between students and teachers whenever possible.

Wind Instruments and Vocals

- ❖ All students and teachers will wear a mask whenever possible.
- ❖ All parents/guardians will always wear a mask for the entirety of lesson.
- ❖ All efforts will be made to maintain a 12 ft distance between students and teachers whenever possible.
- ❖ All efforts will be made for the teacher and student to not face each other during the lesson.



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Coronavirus / COVID-19 Warning & Disclaimer

I hereby acknowledge and agree that.

Coronavirus, COVID-19 is an extremely contagious virus that spreads easily through person-to-person contact. Federal and state authorities recommend social distancing as a mean to prevent the spread of the virus. COVID-19 can lead to severe illness, personal injury, permanent disability, and death. Participating in Thames Valley Music School programs could increase the risk of contracting COVID-19. Thames Valley Music School in no way warrants that COVID-19 infection will not occur through participation in Thames Valley Music School programs.

I understand that the terms of this agreement are legally binding and certify that I am signing this agreement, after having carefully read it, of my own free will.

IN WITNESS WHEREOF, this instrument is duly executed this _____ day of _____, in the year _____.

Participant Signature

Participant Name (Print Clearly)

Contact Number

Email



COVID-19 School Policy

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Space Setup

- Private Instruction
 - No more than one teacher to one student.
 - One adult may accompany the student in the classroom.
- Groups and Ensembles
 - Group size in every classroom should be limited to no more than one teacher and ten additional individuals.
 - Both children and additional support professionals will be counted towards the 10:1 group size limit.
 - 10:1 group size limit assumes that the classroom (or other instructional area) is large enough to allow for six-foot social distancing between individuals (twelve-foot social distancing for wind instruments and vocals.) If this is not the case, the ratio must be lower.

Social Distancing: Thames Valley Music School will attempt to always maintain a six-foot distancing. Face coverings must be worn as indicated by the policy.

- Distancing strategies:
 - Appropriate social distancing strategies will be implemented allowing for at least six feet of physical distance between individuals. To ensure appropriate social distancing, Thames Valley Music School will select strategies based on feasibility given the unique space and needs of the school as recommended by CDC's Interim Guidance for Administrators of US K-12 Schools and Child Care Programs, including: transmission caused from virus-containing droplets (e.g., from talking, coughing, sneezing).
 - Stagger arrival and/or dismissal times. These approaches can limit the amount of close contact between students in high-traffic situations and times.
 - Limit the number of students allowed in program at one time.

Personal Protection

- **Face Coverings**
 - Everyone, unless otherwise exempt, will always use a face mask at all times. Face coverings includes cloth face covering or face masks. This requirement also applies to parents dropping off or picking up children.

- **Hand hygiene**
 - Thames Valley Music School will reinforce to staff and children, regular handwashing with soap and water for at least 20 seconds should be done.
 - Hands must be washed prior to lessons
 - Alcohol-based hand sanitizer will be provided at every school entrance and in every classroom.
 - Hand sanitizer will be provided in every classroom. It will be used prior to and immediately following lessons by the teacher, student, and any accompanying parent.

- **Respiratory hygiene**
 - Thames Valley Music School will encourage all staff and children to cover coughs and sneezes with tissues or the corner of the elbow. Dispose of soiled tissues immediately after use.

Cleaning and Disinfecting

- **Promoting Health Hygiene Practices, and Cleaning & Disinfection**
 - School administrators will communicate cleaning and hygiene protocols as recommended by the CDC. These protocols will be adhered to by all staff and participants. Signs on how to “Stop the Spread” will be posted in all school buildings in easily seen locations.
 - Areas where school operations are used will be cleaned, disinfected and/or sanitized, as per CDC guidelines. Door handles, desks, and other high contact areas will be given special attention.
 - Thames Valley Music School will collaborate to disinfect shared equipment and spaces.
 - Shared musical equipment will be cleaned regularly with disinfectant wipes.
 - Such wipes may be used safely on piano keys so long as the wipes do not touch any other surfaces on the pianos (they will damage wood finishes).
 - At the conclusion of the teaching day, the last person to teach in each space will wipe down the piano keys or other equipment.
 - Faculty and students will be required to wash their hands and/or use appropriate hand sanitizer before using any shared equipment.
 - Signage explaining these procedures will be placed in multiple locations.

Health Guidance

- **Case Protocols and Notification:** If a child or staff member who has been present in school has a confirmed diagnosis of COVID-19, the local health department will be notified per protocol. Thames Valley Music School will notify those staff and/or students that may have been exposed to anyone suspected of being sick while maintaining confidentiality and privacy expectations.

- When staff and students should stay home:
Symptoms that require absence:
 - Active vomiting
 - Diarrhea
 - Fever (temp of 100.4 F or above) / chills / generalized body ache
 - The first 24 hours of various antibiotic treatment (i.e., strep throat, pink eye
 - Undiagnosed, new and or untreated rash or skin condition (i.e., generalized hives, wound with purulent drainage, etc.)
 - Doctors note requiring an individualized plan of care to stay home.
- Symptoms of COVID-19 to be considered are:
 - Fever
 - Shortness of Breath
 - Cough
 - Chills
 - Muscle Aches
 - Sore Throat
 - New loss of taste or smell
 - Any staff or student who has been in close contact with someone diagnosed with COVID-19 should stay home for 14 days from exposure.

For individuals who tested positive for COVID-19, those individuals will be asked to follow the guidance of the local health department.

- **Mitigation**

The following are factors which can mitigate the spread of infectious disease.

- Avoid contact with people who are sick
- Stay home if sick
- Cover cough or sneeze into your elbow or tissue, then throw the tissue in the trash. Follow hand hygiene. Follow CDC recommendations on facecloth coverings.
- Avoid touching your eyes, nose, and mouth. If you do, wash your hands afterwards
- Wash hands often with soap and water (20 seconds)
- If you do not have soap, use hand sanitizer (60-95% alcohol-based)
- Clean and disinfect frequently touched objects and surfaces using a regular household cleaning spray or wipe.
- Ensure all vaccines are up to date of self and household members
- Reinforce the use of cloth face coverings. Face coverings should be worn by staff and students as feasible and are most essential in times when physical distancing is difficult. NOTE: Cloth face coverings should not be placed on child under age 2, anyone who has trouble breathing or is unconscious or anyone who is unable to due to a medical condition.
- Utilize social distancing, as defined as staying 6 feet apart from others whenever possible.

Our plan was reviewed by Christin Kondash RN, BSN, Nurse Consultant.

TEACHERS COVID-19 SELF-SCREENING QUESTIONNAIRE

Teachers are asked to review the following questionnaire prior to coming to work each day. If you have any of the below symptoms or a temperature greater than 38.0°C/100.0°F, please stay home from work, contact the office at 860-439-2749 and follow up with your health care provider.

In the past 24 hours, have you experienced?

Fever/Chills: Yes No

Fatigue: Yes No

Cough: Yes No

Congestion/Runny nose (not associated with seasonal allergies): Yes No

Muscle Aches and Pains: Yes No

Sore throat: Yes No

Diarrhea: Yes No

Headaches: Yes No

Shortness of Breath or Difficulty Breathing: Yes No

New Loss of Smell and/or Taste: Yes No

Nausea/Vomiting: Yes No

Have you recently been in close contact with anyone who has exhibited any symptoms of COVID-19? Yes No

Have you recently been in contact with anyone who has tested positive for COVID-19? Yes No