

At North Central Herts School of Dance we aim to maintain a secure, caring and stimulating environment in which children are encouraged to have respect for themselves and each other. In light of the Covid-19 pandemic we expect the following from our students.

Drop off, Pick up and Moving around

Students will be dropped off at the designated entrance to the venue.

At their designated home time, students will leave the building through their designated exit. There should be no reasons for parents/carers to enter the site.

Movement around the room will be limited. They will always keep distanced when moving around. Children will follow a teacher or helper to and from their bubble on their designated route.

Students will be expected to tell a member of staff if they are unwell and are exhibiting signs of Coronavirus.

Students must take responsibility for their own equipment and make sure they are not shared with other pupils.

Students must not share food or drink with other pupils

Students must bring their own bottle of water, we will be unable to provide drinking water at the moment

Handwashing and Hygiene

Students will be expected to follow all hand washing and hygiene routines. Students will wash hands/use antibacterial hand gel before entering, after returning from outside, before and after eating and at regular intervals if the session exceeds 1 hour.

We ask the students to follow the catch it, bin it, kill it mantra. If they need to cough or sneeze, they should use a tissue or the crook of their arm ('dab'!!). Students will be reminded not to touch their face, mouth, nose or eyes while at NCH dance classes.

Should a student refuse to follow these routines, disciplinary procedures and sanctions will be used (see below).

Social Distancing

Students who are old enough will be expected to socially distance from their peers and adults inside and while outside. They will have their own designated space in the studio which they will be expected to go straight to

and nowhere else in the room. Students will put their hand up if they need adult support rather than coming over to them.

Teachers will ensure that students, wherever possible, adhere to social distancing measures. Where older students do not comply, the usual disciplinary procedures and sanctions will be used (see below).

Students are asked not to shout, chant, sing due to the government advice of risk through raised voices.

We understand socially distancing may be difficult for younger children, they will be encouraged wherever possible to keep their distance from peers and adults, however, we understand this may not always be possible.

Toilets

Children will be supervised and encouraged to use toilets one at a time. When a student has finished in the toilet, they **must** wash their hands.

Break in classes

On the occasion where students have a break in lessons, they will have a designated place to wait inside the room with their group.

Rewards for younger classes

Unlike usual, we will not be able to give stickers to the young students as a reward but will instead be awarded and put on a chart that the teacher will keep and display each week.

Behaviour

If a child's behaviour is deemed high risk (for example, refusing to adhere to safety measure such as hand washing, social distancing, remaining in their bubbles or deliberate behaviours that put themselves or others at risk, such as spitting or deliberately coughing at people) the following sanctions and disciplinary procedures could be used:

- Conversation(s) with pupil(s) which could include a verbal warning
- If rules continue to be broken contact should be made with the pupil's parent/carer.
- If the health and safety of other pupils and staff members are put at risk by the pupils not adhering to social distancing measures, then the parent/carer will be expected to collect the pupil.

- If high risk behaviour continues to be presented after all of the above the parent/carer will be informed and the child may be asked to leave their term of classes. This is non-refundable and will happen only in extreme cases.

Children with Special Education Needs (SEN)

NCH acknowledges that children will have had a range of different experiences during the lockdown period which may have an impact on their behaviour presentation.

As a result of these varied experiences children may present with behaviour that is not usual:

- Anxiety; lack of confidence
- Challenging behaviour, fight or flight response
 - Anger; shouting or crying
- Hyperactivity and difficulties maintaining attention

For some children, including those with attachment concerns or SEN, and especially those with autism, the change in routines and lack of familiarity will require additional adjustment.

NCH recognises that behaviour could be a sign that for some individuals there is an unfulfilled need and that the behaviour is communicating that there is a problem. NCH will use reasonable endeavours to make the necessary adjustments to reduce the stimulus that may be triggering the challenging response.

Children with known SEN that you feel may have difficulty adhering to the new procedures may have to attend NCH on a trial basis so that staff can evaluate their behaviour in line with our safety measures.