



Neptune Theatre School Policies & Updates

(Dated: January 26th, 2021)

With Covid-19 restrictions in place, Neptune Theatre is working hard to make sure we maintain our standards of communication with our students, parents and staff. We have adjusted our policies to reflect the current state of the province. Our plan is to continue to go ahead with our in-person programs while adjusting to follow current health and safety guidelines. As guidelines are updated on a regular basis, we reserve the right to make updates as well. This could mean anything from adjusting class sizes, mandating masks, or switching to an online platform with less than 24hrs notice. In any event of a change in our plans, parents and students will be contacted directly and as soon as possible.

Please review these policies, and email school@neptunetheatre.com if you have any questions.

We will be updating our policies regularly. Please be sure that you have read the most updated version before coming to class.

Updates as of January 2021

- Masks are required in class for students aged 10yrs+. Exceptions to this are:
 - If it can be guaranteed through the structure of the activity that all students and staff can remain 6ft apart.
 - For "performance" (i.e. video, final runthrough in class). Hands will be sanitized before and after scenes with less than 6ft distance. Rooms will continue to be ventilated between groups.
 - For physical activities such as dance (6ft distancing is encouraged).
- Students/staff are asked NOT to come to class if they or anyone in their household:
 - Has returned to Nova Scotia from an area designated by public health to be of risk, and therefore requiring self isolation upon return.
 - Has been present at an exposure site, or is told to self isolate due to contact tracing - <https://www.nshealth.ca/covid19-news>
 - Are awaiting a Covid- 19 test appointment or result.
 - Has tested positive for Covid-19.

- Everyone in the home must self isolate for 14 days.)
- <https://novascotia.ca/coronavirus/restrictions-and-guidance/#self-isolation-requirements>
- While we currently maintain a maximum of 12 individuals per class (including students and instructors), we are within the guidelines of Public Health to increase our class sizes should we wish. This will not occur during Winter Classes, but may impact other programs going forward:
 - *"Gathering limit without social distancing for participants and officials in organized performing arts (excluding singing and playing brass or wind instruments) and sports - participants and officials in performing arts and sports (recreational, amateur and professional) can gather in groups of up to 25 people without social distancing for practices and rehearsals; competitions, games, tournaments, performances and spectators are not permitted."* - <https://novascotia.ca/coronavirus/restriction-updates/>

CONTINUING POLICIES IN THE RUNNING OF OUR CLASSES

- We will have a half hour between each group to allow for sanitizing and airing-out of the space
- We are working in the larger rehearsal studios at Neptune Theatre to ensure there is space for social distancing
- Staggered times for drop off and pick up have been created to limit the crossover of students from different cohorts
- We will have additional cleaning protocols for all bathrooms and high touch surfaces throughout the day
- All staff, students, and parents must wear masks when entering the building and traveling the halls
- Masks are encouraged in the classroom for students 10yrs+ unless they are socially distanced, doing exertive physical activities, or in a final performance
- No staff or students will be allowed to enter the Neptune Theatre if they are displaying symptoms of Covid-19 (unless linked to an unrelated condition)
- No staff or students will be allowed to enter the Neptune Theatre if anyone in their household is awaiting a Covid-19 test or is in isolation due to travel
- We will have extra signage and resources related to Covid-19 posted around the facility
- We will have no live singing in class unless Public Health provides clear guidelines
- Patience and compassion will be required for all students, staff, and parents. We are all in this together and must look out for each other physically and emotionally

- Bullying (as always) will not be tolerated
- Staff will receive extra training to ensure that everyone is informed of the codes of conduct during Covid-19
- Neptune Theatre School admin attends regular meetings and takes time to read up on guidelines and updates to make sure that we are working under the most up to date guidelines
- All students and staff are asked to sign a Code of Conduct document which is valid for the calendar year. Students and/or guardians and staff are required to sign the most up to date Code of Conduct document before attending Neptune Theatre School programs.