



**Guildhall School
of Music & Drama**
in partnership with
Islington Council

Music Education Islington

Covid-19 - FAQs Spring/Summer 2021

[Current Governmental Guidance](#) (last updated: 16 March 2021)

“You should continue teaching music, dance and drama as part of your school curriculum, especially as this builds pupils’ confidence and supports their wellbeing. There may, however, be an additional risk of infection in environments where singing, chanting, playing wind or brass instruments, dance or drama takes place.

“Singing, wind and brass instrument playing can be undertaken in line with this and other guidance, including guidance provided by the Department for Digital, Culture, Media & Sport (DCMS) on working safely during coronavirus (COVID-19) in the performing arts. Schools can continue to engage peripatetic teachers during this period, including staff from music education hubs. Further information on the music education hubs, including contact details for local hubs, is available at music education hubs published by the Arts Council England.

“Schools that offer specialist, elite provision in music, dance and drama should also consider this guidance alongside the DCMS guidance on the performing arts. Specialist provision delivered by further education (FE) providers or higher education (HE) providers should consider the respective DfE guidance for these sectors.

Are you able to support us with instrumental lessons?

We are continuing all our instrumental lessons. Delivery is either as face-to-face lessons or as pre-recorded tutorials. Small group and 1-to-1 lessons can also be carried out as online live lessons.

We still have availability for the delivery of instrumental lessons in schools currently without instrumental lessons.

For all our in-school provision, please also see our Risk Assessment.

All our tutors are encouraged to take a LFT twice a week.

Is singing allowed in schools?

Latest governmental guidance has not changed information on singing. Singing within class bubbles is possible as long as:

- It takes place in a well ventilated room or outdoors
- There is space between children
- Any loud singing or shouting is avoided

More information is published by [Music Mark](#) and is included in our Risk Assessment.

We are currently don't have a whole class set of instruments. Are we still able to hire instruments?

Yes! We still have instruments available such as recorders, glockenspiels, ukuleles, violins, cellos, violas, flutes, clarinets, and trumpets.

We also offer non-instrumental sessions, such as body percussion and singing.

Will CPD sessions continue online?

Yes. CPD and network meetings will continue online for the time being.

Our school has a Standard SLA offer. What does this mean for our school?

Key advantages of our Standard SLA are that you can access all our activities as well as free CPD training.

We have signed up to a bespoke SLA but have not used our allocated consultancy hours.

Whether we have started our journey of developing your school music education plan (SMEP)/curriculum or not, the summer term is the best to strategically plan your music provision. Our consultations can be done online, but we can also return to school visits, where that is preferred.

We have students at our school who participate in MEI Music Centres. Are they going to continue online?

Yes. Our MEI music centres will be continuing online. Pupils can sign up for the summer term again. The offer starts from year 2 with musicianship classes and continues for year 4+ with instrumental small group lessons, choir and ensemble, playing woodwind, brass, and string instruments (violin & Co as well as ukulele/guitar).