

EXCALIBUR THEATRE ARTS CO.
[COVID-19] COMMUNICABLE DISEASE PREVENTION
2021/22 SEASON (as of Oct 4th 2021)

This document will be reevaluated and updated on a regular basis. If viewing online, refresh to ensure you have the most recent version. Ctrl + F5 on PC, Command + R on Mac, swipe down on iOS mobile, etc.

Our 2021/22 season began the week of Tuesday, September 7th, 2021

Despite early optimism following the introduction of Step 3 on July 1st, **the province will not be entering Step 4 of the BC Restart Plan on September 7th.** Unfortunately, with case counts rising in northern British Columbia, official mandates are changing on a regular basis. As the situation progresses, we expect the PHO to implement additional restrictions and guidelines in an effort to combat the spread of COVID-19.

The following protocols outline our efforts to prevent communicable disease within our facility as required by Step 3 of the BC Restart Plan, while also detailing our continued compliance with official mandates.

“VACCINE PASSPORT”

We have been contacted with updated guidance as it applies to dance studios and proof of vaccination, as of September 17th, 2021.

With new info coming straight from the Ministry of Health, two major adjustments have been made official:

- **We have been granted the 21 years of age and younger exemption for youth recreational sport**

Provided our classes are clearly intended for specific age ranges that fall within the exemption, and provided no class exceeds 50 people, this exemption now applies to our dancers. This was not the case even yesterday-- official sources were still instructing studios to require proof of vaccination from all individuals 12 years and older.

This means that the majority of our dancers are no longer required to provide proof when they enter the building, only those participating in classes intended for adult age groups. It should be noted that only a small segment of our younger student base required the vaccine card prior to this change, and all who attended classes thus far were able to provide it.

- **Individuals entering the facility to escort young children, with the intention of immediately exiting, are no longer required to provide proof of vaccination**

Similar to restaurants allowing pick-up orders without proof, but requiring the vaccine card for sit down dining, this change will significantly reduce the pressure on studio staff tasked with scanning QR codes.

IMPORTANT: Should you enter the facility for drop-off or pick-up, and opt not to provide proof of vaccination, you must leave immediately thereafter. This extends beyond the simple drop-and-go policy. Please realize that this is NOT an open invitation to enter the lobby area, sit, and wait for several minutes prior to the start or end of class. In such cases, you will be asked to present a vaccine card. In the interest of public safety, these individuals are NOT permitted to remain in the facility for any length of time.

Please note also, as per the order presented by the Provincial Health Officer, that entering our retail location (Excalibur Dance Shoppe) does not require proof of vaccination.

Beyond the exemptions and considerations noted above, all individuals 12 years and older are expected to present proof of vaccination when entering the Excalibur facility, and individuals 19 years and older may be asked to present additional government photo ID.

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MASKING/PPE

As per the recent announcement by the PHO and the Minister of Education, beginning **on Monday, October 4th**, K-12 students are required to wear masks in all indoor areas. This expands the age requirement for mandatory masking to include children 5 years of age and older.

So how does this apply to Excalibur, an organization dedicated to dance education for children? Upon reaching out to official sources, it was recommended that we partially adopt this new policy:

- **Masks are still NOT required in dance classes during periods of physical activity.** Unlike traditional public school classrooms, our dance studios remain the safest spaces in the facility. Physical distancing is easily maintained, sanitization is targeted, and studio staff control the flow of students entering and exiting. The province maintains that individuals are not required to wear a mask while exercising or participating in sport. That said, a mask is still strongly recommended within the classroom, especially during periods of rest.
- **All individuals (5 years of age and older) are now required to wear a mask when entering the facility.** Masks must be worn when outside of the classroom, at all times. This applies to lobbies, hallways, common areas, change rooms, the Dance Shoppe, and the office. Though our dance studios are large and able to safely accommodate numerous students, other areas within the facility are less spacious. Physical distancing can be difficult in some places and masks will help to reduce any potential risk.
- **Students 3 and 4 years of age are still technically exempt from the educational masking mandate,** but masks are still strongly recommended when entering the facility and when moving around outside of the classroom.

Additional medical and logical exemptions apply [as per the the official government website](#).

DROP-AND-GO

When entering the facility, should a child require assistance or support, or be too young to manage on their own, they may be accompanied by a single parent/guardian. If your child is able to enter unaccompanied, this is recommended. Please avoid bringing additional family members unless absolutely necessary (infant siblings, for instance). Provided your dancer is comfortable, prepared, and ready to participate, **please exit the facility once they have joined their class under the supervision of studio teaching staff.**

As we return to a traditional class schedule format, with overlapping transitions between classes, we simply cannot safely accommodate everyone given the limited space and distancing requirements. As such, in order to avoid unnecessary congestion and crowding, we strongly recommend that parents and guardians exit the facility once their dancer has safely entered the classroom.

- You may have multiple young students attending class on the same day, with different start times. Students not in a classroom are to remain with their parent/guardian and must be supervised at all times. If the lobby area becomes too crowded during periods of transition, you may be required to relocate to an alternative staging area.

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UPON ARRIVAL/EXIT

The studio offers multiple entrances and exits. In order to facilitate a smooth transition to and from the classroom, please consider the following options:

- **If you attend class in studios B or F**, the lobby entrance off Lyon St. is recommended. This is the middle door of the three available from the parking lot.
- **If you attend class in studio E**, there is an entrance from the front parking lot directly into your classroom. This is the far left door off Lyon St. Use this entry/exit to avoid crowding in the lobby.
- **If you attend class in studios A or C**, there is a rear entrance off Nicholson St. This is a ideal entry and exit for students who are comfortable within the studio. Please be aware, there is no seating or waiting area and the hallway is narrow. Space is limited, remaining here for any period of time will obstruct student traffic. Therefore, this door is best used by dancers who do not require the assistance of a parent/guardian.
- **If you attend class in studios A or C and require the presence of a parent/guardian upon arrival**, please use the Lyon St. front lobby entrance (middle door). Be aware that this will create additional crowding in the lobby, so use this option only when necessary. Exiting through the rear door off Nicholson St. is still recommended.
- **If you wish to visit the office or Dance Shoppe**, the front office entrance is your best choice (the door to the right off Lyon St.) as it bypasses all lobby and hallway congestion.

While you are not required to use any specific entrance or exit, please consider your options and choose the one best suited to your situation. Avoiding congestion, crowding, and cross-traffic is still a high priority, as physical distancing remains a constant consideration.

MAXIMUM CAPACITY

Social distancing is still an important aspect of prevention. As such, the current limitations to capacity within our facility remain in effect for time being. **All existing signage regarding maximum capacities shall remain posted and must be observed.** Also note the following:

- Bring a water bottle and fill it prior to arriving. Access to the studio filling station may be limited if multiple students attempt to refill at the same time.
- Change room access will be *extremely* limited due to capacity restrictions. If you can, please arrive in proper attire. Visit the Information menu on our website (excaliburarts.com) for [dance attire and footwear requirements](#).

STAGING AREAS & CROWD CONTROL

In an effort to avoid overcrowding, studio staff may request that certain individuals or groups relocate to classroom-specific staging areas. Likewise, to ensure that social distancing is maintained, staff may attempt to control the flow of students to and from the classroom. Please be prepared to follow instructions should studio staff require your compliance in these matters.

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SYMPTOMS?

Individuals exhibiting symptoms of a communicable disease (for example, fever and/or chills, recent onset of coughing, diarrhea) are asked to remain home. This includes students, their family members, and studio staff.

HAND HYGIENE

It is recommended that individuals make use of the touchless hand sanitizer dispensers (located near each exterior door) when entering and exiting the studio. Likewise, touchless soap dispensers in each washroom help to ensure that proper hand hygiene is maintained.

ASSIGNED WASHROOMS

Please note that each classroom is assigned a specific washroom in order to avoid cross-traffic and to assist with potential contact tracing. Be sure to use the proper facilities (there will be signage on each washroom door).

REGULAR CLEANING

Studio staff will be on hand to oversee the regular cleaning of high traffic areas and surfaces. Likewise, when deemed necessary, teaching staff will sanitize classrooms and equipment.

PARKING

Parking at the studio is often problematic. Once you leave the building, please do not remain in the parking lot unless strictly necessary. We have far more clientele than parking spots and we must work together to provide easy and safe access to the facility. [Visit our website for additional details.](#)