

SLDS INFECTION CONTROL POLICY 04082022

Zoe Dawson (Principal) has overall responsibility for implementation of the South London Dance School Infection Control Policy and the Health & Safety Officer has day-to-day responsibility for ensuring this policy is put into practice.

The aim of the infection control policy is to ensure that SLDS provides an environment and has in place appropriate processes to minimise the risk of infection of Covid-19 and other infectious diseases to all of our community.

South London Dance School accepts no liability in the event that someone who has attended the studio premises contracts Covid-19 or any other infectious disease.

1. Standard Precautions

All staff and students should take standard precautions to avoid the spread of infectious diseases, including good hand and respiratory hygiene (see points 2. and 3. below)

Upon arrival at the studios, staff and students should always sanitise their hands before touching handles and/or buttons.

Staff and students should not come into the studio building if they are feeling unwell and infectious diseases should be reported according to point 5. below.

2. Hand Hygiene

Hand washing is the most effective way to mitigate the risk of transmitting Covid-19 and other similar illnesses.

You should always wash your hands:

- Before you start work / classes and after
- Before and after eating, drinking, or touching your face
- After using the toilet
- After coughing or sneezing

You should always use anti-bacterial soap and for a minimum of 20 seconds. Warm (not hot) water is most effective but cold water can be used where necessary. Ensure you wash all of your hands, including your fingernails, thumbs, palms, backs of your hands, and in between your fingers. Refer to notices in WC's for guidance on hand washing.

Always make sure your hands are completely dry by using a paper towel after washing as bacteria and virus particles thrive in wet environments.

If adequate hand washing facilities are not available, use hand sanitising gel/spray with at least 60% alcohol. You should always carry some sanitiser with you for emergencies, and to avoid sharing high-touch items with others. Remember that hand sanitiser is not effective as soap and water so should only be used when soap and water are not available.

3. Respiratory Hygiene

Respiratory hygiene is particularly important to reduce the spread of diseases such as Covid-19 and includes actions such as coughing, sneezing, and speaking.

Good respiratory hygiene means coughing and sneezing into a tissue and making sure to safely dispose of the tissue into a bin. Cough and sneeze into your elbow if tissues are unavailable, and try to avoid coughing and sneezing entirely when others are nearby. Always remember to wash your hands afterwards.

4. Cleaning and disinfecting

Studios and equipment will be cleaned regularly.

Any spills of body fluid should be wiped up with a cloth/tissue/paper towel, and then disinfected with wipes/spray. Wear gloves when cleaning these spillages and dispose of them in the bin afterwards. Larger spillages will likely require that the floor is mopped.

If any member of staff or volunteers notice a need for restocking cleaning supplies they must inform admin staff immediately so that an order can be placed.

It is a good idea for staff and volunteers to disinfect the surface of their phones and laptops regularly using cleaning items that will not damage the electrical item. Phones especially, as these are used very often and in public settings.

5. Reporting

If a student / member of staff has attended the studios when they had any of the following infectious diseases, then the school office must be informed. Also, where stated, the guidance below about returning to the studios must be adhered to:

Chickenpox	at least 5 days from the onset of the rash and until all blisters have crusted over
Diarrhoea and Vomiting	48 hours after their last episode

Cold and flu-like illness (including COVID-19)	they no longer have a high temperature and feel well enough to attend. Follow the national guidance if they've tested positive for COVID-19
Impetigo	their sores have crusted and healed, or 48 hours after they started antibiotics
Measles	4 days after the rash first appeared
Mumps	5 days after the swelling started
Scabies	they've had their first treatment
Scarlet fever	24 hours after they started taking antibiotics
Whooping cough	48 hours after they started taking antibiotics
Hand, foot and mouth	Do not come into the studio when feeling unwell and ideally not until the blisters have healed
Slapped cheek	
Head lice	
Threadworms	
Glandular fever	
Tonsillitis	