

The logo for Wight Music Tuition is a large, light blue circle containing a stylized white letter 'W'. The 'W' is formed by two overlapping shapes that resemble musical notes or a stylized 'W' with a dot, giving it a musical feel. The text is centered over this logo.

# **Wight Music Tuition**

**COVID19 Risk Assessment**

## Music Teaching in September

DfE guidance states that all pupils should receive a broad and balanced curriculum covering all subjects and including the arts, which is ambitious. Therefore, music should be taught in schools from September and can be delivered by class teachers and visiting music teachers. The caveat is that everything needs to be clearly risk assessed with mitigating and practical measures in place. Each school will take decisions that are best suited to their physical buildings, their pupils and their community. The Music Hub will be a supportive partner in helping shape any return to in-person delivery and actively encourage discussions with us about music education delivery. Music Education will look and sound different but everything is achievable.

Guidance Key Points	Guidance	Music Hub Response
<b>Pupils should receive a broad and balanced curriculum.</b>	<i>Some schools may keep children in their class groups for the majority of the classroom time, but also allow mixing into wider groups for specialist teaching... The curriculum should remain broad, so that the majority of pupils are taught a full range of subjects over the year, including sciences, humanities, the arts, physical education/sport, religious education and relationships and health education.</i>	Please see our Music recovery curriculum for suggestion as to how to integrate into your curriculum.  Please refer to the hub CPD offer to support you in this journey.
<b>Teachers can move between year groups</b>	<i>All teachers and other staff can operate across different classes and year groups in order to facilitate the delivery of the school timetable. Ideally, adults should maintain 2 metre distance from each other, and from children.</i>	Schools can receive specialist music teaching for different year groups and classes on one visit.
<b>Peripatetic staff can move between schools.</b>	<i>Supply teachers, peripatetic teachers and/or other temporary staff can move between schools. They should ensure they minimise contact and maintain as much distance as possible from other staff.</i>	Peripatetic instrumental teachers are able to visit different schools.  Lessons can take place in line with individual school and WMT risk assessments.  Please note we are waiting for further guidance from DfE and this will be vital in order to establish what is and isn't possible.

<p>Instrumental music lessons could be taught by visiting music teachers</p>	<p><i>Singing, wind and brass instrument playing can be undertaken in line with this and other guidance, in particular guidance provided by the DCMS for professionals and non-professionals, available at <a href="#">working safely during coronavirus (COVID-19): performing arts</a>. However, these studies have also indicated that it is the cumulative aerosol transmission from both those performing in and attending events is likely to create risk. DCMS is continuing to develop a more detailed understanding of how to mitigate this potential aggregate risk. Although singing and playing wind and brass instruments <b>do not</b> currently appear to represent a significantly higher risk than routine speaking and breathing at the same volume, there is now some evidence that additional risk can build from aerosol transmission with volume and with the combined numbers of individuals within a confined space. This is particularly evident for singing and shouting, but with appropriate safety mitigation and consideration, singing, wind and brass teaching can still take place. Schools should consider how to reduce the risk, particularly when pupils are playing instruments or singing in music lessons by, for example, physical distancing and playing outside wherever possible, positioning pupils back-to-back or side-to-side, avoiding sharing of instruments, and ensuring good ventilation. Singing, wind and brass playing should not take place in larger groups such as school choirs and ensembles, or school assemblies unless the room sizes allow for adequate mitigations.</i></p>	<p>First access can take place, in line with risk assessments and with careful consideration of the appropriate safety precautions and cleaning regimes.</p> <p>Brass and woodwind first access will be replaced with a vocal and percussion unit during the Autumn term.</p>
<p><b>Music activities will support pupils in responding to their emotional experiences.</b></p>	<p><i>Schools should consider the provision of pastoral and extra-curricular activities to all pupils designed to:</i></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li><i>-support the rebuilding of friendships and social engagement</i></li> <li><i>-address and equip pupils to respond to issues linked to coronavirus (COVID-19)</i></li> <li><i>-support pupils with approaches to improving their physical and mental wellbeing</i></li> </ul>	<p>Schools should refer to the music recovery plan, the hub enrichment offer and hub resources.</p>

Risk	Consideration	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>● mitigation</li> </ul>
Close contact with others causes the virus to spread	Movement within schools	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>● WMT staff to be made aware of rules concerning movement around school on entry.</li> <li>● WMT staff to clean hands with sanitiser in reception, and between lessons</li> <li>● Close contact register to be kept by all WMT staff</li> </ul>
	Movement between schools	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>● WMT to advise limiting the number of schools teachers visit and maximise the time spent by staff in schools.</li> <li>● staff to maintain two metres distance from pupils and other staff as much as they can</li> </ul>
	During lessons	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>● Staff should keep two metres distance from pupils when teaching. Visors or screens are available for all staff to use for first access classes, however these are not in place of social distancing measures. Screens should be cleaned after every lesson if they are used.</li> <li>● observe social distancing within each group you teach where appropriate</li> <li>● avoid situations where distancing requirements are broken</li> <li>● There is no need for anything other than normal personal hygiene and washing of clothes following a day in school</li> <li>● Hand sanitiser to be made available to all members of staff. This should be used in between lesson, after touching pupils instruments etc.</li> <li>● Clean hands in between lessons</li> <li>● All persons are reminded to not touch their eyes, nose or mouth if their hands are not clean.</li> </ul>

	Schools or pupils not following guidance	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>● Communicate at the first possible instance with the schools if pupils being taught are not following adequate social distancing and therefore putting staff and other pupils at risk.</li> <li>● Communicate with the school and WMT directors if the member of staff does not feel that adequate measures have been put into place and that social distancing is compromised.</li> </ul>
	WMT staff member not following guidance	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>● Schools to communicate any issues to WMT office on 07785 77 82 22.</li> </ul>
	Use of track and trace	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>● Staff to advise the WMT office of the fact that they have been sent for testing and the result of that test.</li> <li>● If staff test positive, schools will be informed as above.</li> <li>● If the test is negative, staff are able to return to work.</li> <li>● In the event of self isolation, because of notification of contact with somebody with Covid-19 via the test and trace system, staff will be either advised to work from home or sick, in the event of testing positive.</li> </ul>

Catching or spreading the virus	Home contact	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>● Persons who are clinically extremely vulnerable and/or shielding are able to return to work but they are only able to teach in spaces that enable adherence to social distancing and with good ventilation.</li> <li>● Staff who live with clinically vulnerable or shielded family members are able to return to work.</li> <li>● All staff should keep up to date guidance regarding working expectations for vulnerable and extremely clinically vulnerable categories as guidance from the government changes.</li> <li>● Staff with any symptoms of Covid 19 should not be going into schools.</li> </ul>
	Pupil contact	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>● Staff should maintain a distance of two metres from pupils and where possible with all adults in the setting, minimising contact.</li> <li>● Close contact is defined as: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>● 1m or less.</li> <li>● If it is between 1-2 metres for 15 minutes or more</li> </ul> </li> <li>● Staff should keep a register of ALL pupils and staff that they have come into close contact with (as per above description of close contact).</li> </ul>
	Staff contact	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>● Communicate via email where possible to avoid contact</li> <li>● Follow social distancing guidance in offices, staff rooms etc and school guidance regarding toilets.</li> </ul>

Suspected case whilst working in a school	Pupil becomes unwell	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>● Schools to be informed immediately, taking extra precautions to ensure you remain 2m apart from the child at all times</li> <li>● School to inform WMT if child tests positive who is taught by WMT staff. WMT staff asked to self isolate if they have come into close contact.</li> </ul>
	Staff become unwell	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>● Staff with any covid 19 symptoms should not be going into schools</li> <li>● Staff developing symptoms compatible with coronavirus should be sent home and advised to self isolate for 10 days. Their fellow household members should self isolate for 14 days. Staff are encouraged to get tested in this scenario.</li> <li>● WMT office will let schools know a member of staff is self isolating</li> <li>● WMT staff should pass on register of close contacts so we can inform schools.</li> </ul>
Needs of specific pupils	Handling	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>● If staff are likely to use restrictive physical intervention or positive handling, make sure you have appropriate training and PPE to hand for immediate use provided by the setting. (SEND)</li> <li>● Staff will follow guidelines set out by individual SEND settings visited. Staff should request risk assessment and protocols on arrival</li> </ul>
Access to site causes increased spread of virus	entry	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>● WMT staff to clean hands with sanitiser in reception, and between lessons</li> <li>● WMT staff to find out/be made aware of site rules, including movement around school, arrangements for collecting pupils</li> </ul>
	Movement around school	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>● WMT staff to be made aware of rules concerning movement around school on entry.</li> </ul>

	Emergency procedures	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>● WMT staff to be made aware of schools socially distancing evacuation procedures</li> </ul>
Use of equipment spreads virus	use of equipment	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>● ensure hands are washed before and after handling equipment, especially if being used by more than one person</li> <li>● avoid sharing equipment wherever possible. <b>Instruments should be labelled with the child's name.</b></li> <li>● if instruments and equipment have to be shared, disinfect regularly (including cases etc) and always between users</li> <li>● instruments should be cleaned by the pupils playing them where possible.</li> <li>● limit handling of music scores to the individual using them</li> <li>● practise books to be used only by the pupil or any instruction to be written by the pupil on their own music.</li> <li>● disinfect music stands regularly and always between users.</li> </ul>

Teaching spaces spread virus	Size of room	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>● Teaching spaces should be well ventilated</li> <li>● keep doors open, where safe to do so (bearing in mind fire safety and safeguarding), to limit use of door handles and aid ventilation</li> <li>● Music lessons should take place in a room big enough to adequately socially distance, depending on the number of pupils (peri lessons) or allow WMT staff to distance from the bubble. (see guidance below)</li> <li>● players should be positioned side by side or back to back. Brass and woodwind should be positioned so that air does not blow into other players.</li> <li>● screens can be considered in addition to social distancing (not in place of).</li> </ul>
	Equipment in the room	ensure music stands are cleaned between users in peri lessons.

Musical activities spread germs	Equipment	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>● avoid sharing of instruments and equipment wherever possible</li> <li>● Should a member of staff need to touch a pupils instrument this should be cleaned before and after they do so. Staff may also choose to wear gloves if the instrument is brass or woodwind.</li> <li>● when instruments and equipment has to be shared between users/classes always clean between users</li> <li>● instruments should be cleaned by the individuals playing them, where possible.</li> <li>● the teacher should not provide physical correction.</li> <li>● HUB instruments will be quarantined for a period of five days after being returned. They will be cleaned again by the instrumental teacher before being handed to the pupil.</li> </ul>
	Storage of instruments	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>● Ensure instruments are easily accessible</li> </ul>
	groupings	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>● paired groups will be taught in bubbles rather than ability</li> <li>● if teaching across bubbles then staff will follow schools risk assessment.</li> </ul>

Instrument Specific Guidelines:

Peripatetic Instrumental Lessons

Drums	No additional aerosol risk. All pupils required to have own drumsticks. Stool and drums wiped between use. Teacher retains a 2m distance where possible. Players and teacher to be positioned side by side, not face to face
Bowed Strings	No additional aerosol risk. All pupils use own instrument or have a long-term loan from the HUB/the school. Teacher retains a 2m distance where possible. Players and teacher to be positioned side by side, not face to face.
Piano/Keyboard	No additional aerosol risk. instrument cleaned between users. Teacher retains a 2m distance where possible. Players and staff to be positioned side by side, not face to face. Should the teacher need to demonstrate, the pupil should move away to a safe distance and the piano wiped before and after use.
Brass/Woodwind	All pupils use own instrument or have a long-term loan from the HUB/the school. Pupils to stand side by side, separated by a distance of 2 metres. Teacher retains a 2m distance where possible. For brass instruments: Pupils should have their own throw away paper towel to capture water that escapes from the instrument. This should only be handled by the individual and should be thrown away into a bin immediately after each session. Players and teacher to be positioned side by side, not face to face.
Ukelele/Guitar	No additional aerosol risk. All pupils use own instrument or have a long-term loan from the HUB/the school. Teacher retains a 2m distance where possible. Players and teacher to be positioned side to side not face to face.
singing	Pupils to stand side by side, separated by a distance of 2 metres. Teacher retains a 2m distance where possible. Lesson content will be dictated by government guidance. Players and teacher to be positioned side by side not face to face.
Bowed Strings	No additional aerosol risk. All pupils use own instrument or have a long-term loan from the HUB/the school. Teacher retains a 2m distance where possible.
Piano/Keyboard	No additional aerosol risk. instrument cleaned between users. Teacher retains a 2m distance where possible.

## First access instrument guidance

percussion	No additional aerosol risk. Pupils to have their own instrument and avoid sharing of resources. Schools to advise regarding safe storage of instruments. No additional social distancing required in bubbles.
Bowed strings	No additional aerosol risk. Pupils to have their own labelled instrument and avoid sharing of resources. No additional social distancing required in bubbles.
Ukulele, guitar	No additional aerosol risk. Pupils to have their own labelled instrument and avoid sharing of resources. No additional social distancing required in bubbles
Brass, woodwind	Some cumulative aerosol risk – further investigations ongoing. Brass and woodwind first access mostly suspended for Autumn term and replaced with vocal and percussion unit.
singing	Singing will be limited and spread put through the lesson to avoid cumulative aerosols. Room must be well ventilated. Pupils will ideally stand side by side or back to back, but never face to face. Singing can only take place if the space allows it and ensures significant ventilation.

## Singing in schools

While the risks of singing cannot be completely eliminated, providing they are adequately managed, as is the case for all the other risks in schools, there is no reason why class singing cannot take place. These bullet points are in line with the most recent guidance from DfE [HERE](#) and Prof. Martin Ashby [HERE](#) summarised by Music Mark and Sing Up [HERE](#)

- Singers within their class bubble should ideally stand side by side or back to back to sing so that particles will not be directed towards faces – teacher facing the group should be 2m in front of the singers where possible and could use a screen to further minimise risk
- The number of singers in one space should be dictated by how big and well ventilated the area is e.g. if your class is unable to comfortably stand so that they are not facing one another you will need to use a bigger space such as the hall.
- Similarly if your classroom is not well ventilated you will need to move to a space which is so that the air in the room is circulating and being replaced with fresh air throughout, leaving around 30 minutes between different groups using the space to sing in OR sing outside if possible
- The volume of singing should be kept low and plosive sounds should be minimised as quiet singing (and speaking) and less use of hard sounds (such as Ps and Ts) produce less airborne particles (no beatboxing for example!)
- Singing should not happen for longer periods of time in one space as this will allow for more build-up of airborne particles – little and often spread through the day or lesson or for one chunk of time around 10-15 minutes a day would work well in a primary setting. The older the children the higher the risk so children in Year R are safe to sing for longer and more frequently than those in Year 6 for example.
- Choirs or cross bubble groups should not take place unless significant space and natural airflow and strict social distancing can be maintained. Pupils will need to stand side by side or back to back to sing and also need to follow social distancing guidelines (ideally 2m apart) with the conductor or teacher at least 3m in front of them and teachers could use a screen to further minimise risk.
- Avoid using any paper music or lyrics and use a screen to project in order to minimise the amount of paper and therefore virus spread

***Note:** Wight Music Tuition is a co-operative of self-employed music teachers. The use of the word 'staff' has been used to refer to co-operative members within this document purely as a means of reducing space. It does not imply that co-operative members are employees and should not be deemed as a means of altering or diminishing their status as self-employed individuals for the purposes of either exercising control, or for seeking employment rights, or for gaining a financial benefit under HMRC rules.*