

COVID POLICIES AS OF 9/7/21

REGARDING EXPOSURES TO COVID ORIGINATING OUTSIDE OF THE STUDIO

Follow the lead of your individual school. If you are allowed to attend school after your exposure, whether it be with a negative test and/or a mask, the same rules will apply at dance. If you are being quarantined from school, we will ask you to not come to classes until you are allowed to return to school. Please notify us using our online Covid reporting form.

WHEN A STUDENT IS POSITIVE WITHIN 48 HRS OF BEING IN A DANCE CLASS/REHEARSAL AT MDM

Please notify the studio using the Covid online reporting form if your dancer develops symptoms, which become a confirmed Covid case, within 48 hours of being at the studio. MDM will notify the students within the affected classes to alert families of the situation. These exposures are considered "low risk contacts" due to the nature of the continual movement taking place in a dance class. Accordingly, students in affected classes will be permitted to continue to attend classes in person, provided that they are symptom free and wear a mask for the duration of their classes for 10 days from the date of possible exposure (mask policy allowing for removal during dancing does NOT apply in this situation). This is the standard procedure being utilized by most schools for "low risk exposure" situations as well as by other dance studios in the area.

MASK POLICY

Masks will be required for students age 6+ during the following times:

- While in the lobby (this pertains to parents and volunteers as well)
- While changing classes
- While sitting or doing other non-rigorous movement during class
- While at the ballet barre (due to length of time)
- While waiting in line for your turn across the floor during class

Masks will NOT be required, but strongly encouraged, during any time that a dancer is actively dancing, performing or rehearsing in a group or while in continuous movement.

Masks are NOT required for dancers ages 5 and under.

CLEANING & OTHER MITIGATION POLICIES

Dancers should sanitize hands on the way in and out of all classes. Please use the sanitation stations outside the classrooms.

- Instructors will sanitize ballet barres, Acro mats, and PBT equipment after each use.
- Classroom floors will be sanitized at the end of each night.
- Lobby areas and bathrooms will be continually sanitized throughout the night.

LOBBIES CLOSED FOR WAITING & OBSERVATION

Due to the level of spread in our community, we will continue to keep both of our lobbies closed for parent waiting and/or observation. Parents of dancers ages 6 and under are welcome to help their dancer get into the lobby and assist in getting them into class. However, once they are in class, we ask that you use our ZOOM capability for your class observation. Dancers will be walked to the studio entrance at the end of class by their instructor and parents can form a line OUTSIDE to pick up dancers at the door. Please do not come in the lobby for dancer pick up.

REGARDING ZOOM CAPABILITY & OBSERVATION

We will continue to offer ZOOM on an ongoing basis with the following adjustments and expectations:

- All Tiny Dancer & Mini Level classes will have ZOOM automatically connected and parents are welcome to observe the class via ZOOM.
- Junior, Teen & Advanced classes will NOT automatically have a ZOOM connection. If you are a dancer who is in quarantine or staying home due to not feeling 100%, you are welcome to join your class via ZOOM. Please contact Miss Courtney at the front desk to let her know that you wish to ZOOM and she will be sure that the instructor gets ZOOM connected for you.
- We will not be recording classes so if you are at home and wish to keep up with your class choreography, you will need to join the live ZOOM.
- With the exception of Tiny Dancers and Mini Level classes, we will not be offering ZOOM observation to parents. This is due to the distractions that it causes to both the students and the instructors. We will have a Parent ObZOOMvation class at the end of December for parents who wish to participate.

REGARDING EATING AT THE STUDIO

Because we are unable to monitor dancers while eating, we prefer that all dancers DO NOT EAT in the studio, but do so in their car (if that is an option). If there is no other option, we ask that dancers EAT OUTSIDE and remain 6 foot spaced. We will have to rely on YOU to make sure that distancing occurs if/when eating. We encourage all families to use good judgment if someone might have become a "close contact" while eating at the studio. Please notify us and we can help make contacts with other dancers if needed.

RISK MITIGATION OUTSIDE OF MDM CONTROL

While we are doing our best to mitigate risk with our Covid policies, we ask parents to employ risk mitigation strategies that are outside of our control. If your dancer feels "off" in any way, we ask that you stay home and take class via ZOOM. Please be extra cautious with these judgments this year and please do not assume that illnesses are non-Covid. In reality, this is one of the best mitigation strategies available to the community at large. We will gladly allow your dancer to take class via ZOOM at any time that they are not feeling 100%. Just contact us at office@dancemechanix.biz and let us know!

thank you!

We will never be able to guarantee that your dancer will be totally RISK FREE while dancing at MDM, but we can assure you that we are doing our very best to find the right balance between safety and allowing kids to thrive inside the classroom while physically exerting themselves. We have done a lot of research, consulted with doctors, school officials, and other area dance studios, and given the weight of your concerns much thought and consideration. We promise to continue to evaluate and stay on top of the situation. Should changes be warranted, we assure you that we will not hesitate to make updates when needed. Thank you for trusting us with the safety and education of your children... it is something we do not take for granted.

