

## **COVID-19 Protocol 19**

### **"Music"**

The health and safety of all individuals is of utmost importance. All staff and other entrants shall adhere to the following protocol and are to report any unsafe behaviour or violation of this protocol to their Supervisor immediately. Any questions regarding this protocol shall be directed to their supervisor. This protocol is for internal use only.

#### **Scope**

This protocol applies to all students and staff of elementary and secondary music classes and any instruction involving music.

#### **1.0 General Requirements**

- 1.1** Masks must be worn for all indoor classes.
- 1.2** Ensure hand hygiene (before and after music class) and physical distancing measures are put in place, as per TVDSB Health and Safety protocols.
- 1.3** Use large or outdoor venues/learning spaces wherever possible.
- 1.4** Prepare and implement classroom routines for seating, instrument retrieval, music stand retrieval, etc. that maintain physical distancing requirements.
- 1.5** If possible, play outside or in a large well-ventilated space, forward-facing not in a circle or facing each other, at proper physical distancing.
- 1.6** Ensure adequate time is scheduled at the end of each class to allow for thorough cleaning and disinfecting of all instruments, stands, and hard surfaces, as per TVDSB Health and Safety protocols.

#### **2.0 Singing / Vocal Music**

- 2.1** Singing, while masked, may occur **outside only** with physical distancing of a minimum of 3 meters.
- 2.2** Students will need to sing forward-facing, not in a circle or facing each other.
- 2.3** The conductor should be 6 meters away from the singers or using a face-shield and/or mask for protection.
- 2.4** Sheet music cannot be shared. Each student should have their own copy of the music that they can keep with them to avoid handing out/handing back copies.
- 2.5** Music may be used on music stands or displayed by a projector in class for theory purposes.
- 2.6** Humming inside, while masked, is an appropriate substitution for singing.

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### 3.0 Instrumental Music

**3.1 Woodwinds (including Recorders) / Brass:** Currently, the use of these instruments for in-person playing at school is not permitted. If there are sufficient instruments, students may borrow them for at-home practice at the discretion of the Music Teacher. Instruments must be properly sanitized between student use.

**3.2 Strings / Percussion:** Strings and percussion instruments may be used provided a thorough sanitizing or 4-day quarantine period is implemented between students or there are sufficient instruments in a school for individual use (no sharing).

**3.2.1** To maximize hands-on instructional time, staff may consider block scheduling of specific classes (e.g., one class uses instruments for a few weeks after which they are used by another class).

**3.2.2** To avoid damage to wood, stringed instruments are to be cleaned between students by using the cleaning protocol outlined below. Excessive use of any liquid on wooden instruments may cause permanent damage to the instrument.

**3.2.3** Percussion instruments are to be sanitized between students using the sanitizing protocol outlined below.

**3.3 Pianos and Keyboards:** These instruments may be used provided a thorough cleaning is implemented between students.

**3.4** Assign instruments to individual students wherever possible. If sharing must occur due to the number of available instruments, ensure that thorough cleaning and/or sanitizing takes place between student use or ensure a 4-day (5-day for brass instruments) period of “decontamination” exists between students.

**3.5 Cleaning or Disinfecting Instruments:** In adhering to the protocols outlined in Section 3.0, please use the [cleaning and sanitizing protocols](#) as outlined:

- Follow the Cleaning Protocols for pianos and keyboards;
- Follow the Cleaning and Disinfecting Protocols for strings, woodwinds and brass.
- Follow the Instrument [Mouthpiece and Recorder Sanitizing Procedure](#) as per usual.

### 4.0 Music Rooms

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- 4.1** Once students have demonstrated adherence to health and safety routines, music classes may occur in Music Rooms. This process may need to be differentiated for each class depending on their readiness for this transition following discussion between the Music Teacher and school administration.
- 4.2** The use of the Music Room will require advance communication with school administration and custodial staff to ensure that appropriate cleaning protocols are implemented.
- 4.3** All TVDSB Health and Safety Protocols, including physical distancing, shall continue to be implemented.

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