



Langley Community Music School

September 3, 2020

Dear LCMS families,

As we look forward to the start of the fall term, we want to share with you the health and safety measures that are in place for everyone's protection. Although our physical space may be a little more austere when you come, we want you to know that our welcoming spirit of community has never been stronger!

We are limiting in-person teaching to activities in which strict physical distancing can be maintained, and are operating our facility at reduced capacity in order to prevent crowding. Academic programs that work well online, such as theory and history, will be continuing online. Our choir program is on hold at this time, and there will be no in-person activities involving group singing or group playing of wind instruments.

For any programs offered in person during the 2020/21 academic year, we will endeavour to provide an online contingency option to ensure continuation of the program in the event it is necessary for the school to close to in-person teaching for a period of time. Plans will be specific to each program, and will be communicated as much as possible upon registration. Delivery of in-person programs will at all times be contingent on the advice of public health officials and is subject to change during the course of the academic year.

We understand that many families will prefer to continue with their learning online. Some teachers are also choosing to keep their teaching online at this time. There are numerous reasons why this may be the case, whether for health reasons, age, or the protection of family members. We must all respect these personal decisions, and the fact that reasons for these decisions are private.

Enhanced Cleaning and Hygiene

There will be regularly scheduled cleaning of high touch surfaces throughout the building. Pianos, music stands, studio seating, and studio door knobs will be cleaned between each student. A minimum of 10 minutes is scheduled between each private lesson to allow time for cleaning, and for airborne respiratory droplets to diminish. Longer time is also allowed between any group classes to allow sufficient time for cleaning.

Hand sanitizing stations are positioned at the lobby entrance and throughout the building, and hand sanitizer is provided in each teaching studio or classroom. All persons entering a teaching studio must clean their hands before and after the lesson.

Please Wear a Mask

For everyone's protection, the wearing of masks in our common spaces/hallways, smaller teaching studios and during any group class is mandatory (exceptions for medical reasons). The wearing of masks is strongly recommended at all other times. If you forget your mask, disposable masks may be obtained from the office.

Please Stay Home if Unwell

If a student feels unwell before a scheduled in-person lesson, please let us know, and do not come to LCMS. For the 2020/21 academic year, scheduled in-person lessons that cannot be taught due to student/teacher illness or COVID-19 preventative measures will be re-scheduled, taught online, or credited. Please give as much notice as possible. Your teacher will determine the appropriate alternative based on the circumstances.

Students will be required to complete a COVID-19 health screening questionnaire in advance of each lesson, before entering the teaching studio. The questionnaire will be emailed to all registered students, and will also be available at LCMS. You may print a copy at home and bring it to the lesson, and parents should sign this form on behalf of their young children. Teachers will not admit students into the teaching studio without a completed questionnaire. All faculty and staff are required to complete the same questionnaire each day they come to work.

If a student, or any accompanying person, arrives at the lesson while sick, they will be required to leave the premises immediately, and the student will be charged for the lesson.

All facility access will be logged to facilitate contact tracing, and LCMS will share contact information with public health authorities should the need arise.

Please Respect Physical Distancing

Markers and directional signs are placed throughout the building to remind everyone to keep appropriate physical distance and to assist with safe traffic flow.

To prevent crowding, we are operating the building at reduced capacity. Students are asked to arrive on time for their lesson, but not early. Waiting inside the building is discouraged, and most seating in the lobby and other common areas has been removed. You may be asked to use a different entrance/exit, depending on the teaching space your teacher is using.

We recognize that for some of our younger students, a parent/guardian may need to attend the lesson with their child. Only one parent/guardian may attend a lesson with their child. We ask that siblings not be brought into the lessons.

We will not schedule your lesson in a teaching space that cannot enable sufficient physical distancing between teacher and student, taking into consideration the instruments being played and fixtures in the room. Plexiglass barriers will be provided as an additional protective measure in smaller spaces.

Washrooms

Recognizing that students will only be in the facility for a short time, we ask that washroom use be limited as much as possible to emergencies only.

Questions Welcome

Health and safety is our top priority. This document is a summary, and our detailed Safety Plan is available from the office. If you have questions or concerns about the measures we are taking, please contact us. As always, the Principal is available by appointment.

We look forward to welcoming you this fall.

Sincerely,

Carolyn Granholm
Principal