



COVID -19

To ensure the health and safety of our students and faculty, we have implemented the following policies and procedures to mitigate risks related to COVID-19. We are following safety guidelines outlined by the Ontario Government and Halton Regional Public Health; our policies and procedures are subject to change as provincial and regional guidelines evolve.

What the Oakville School of Classical Ballet is doing to keep students safe:

- Staff will not report to work if, within the last 14 days, they have been unwell or have had contact with a known or suspected case of COVID-19.
- Signs with safety information as reminders are displayed at our entrances and throughout the studios. Signage includes: hand hygiene, mask bylaw, physical distancing reminders, and self-assessment questions etc.
- All dancers and parents must wear face coverings when entering the building and moving throughout common areas, in accordance with the Regional Municipality of Halton Face Covering By-Law.
- Hand sanitizing stations are set up at the ballet school main entrance, as well as at the entrance to both Nijinsky and Pavlova Studios for staff and student use. Teachers will enforce and supervise children's use of hand sanitizer prior to entering the studios.
- Approved cleaning materials are being used daily throughout the ballet school to ensure that our dancers and staff are kept safe. Ballet barres, common touch points and floors are sanitized between every class as needed.
- Arrival and dismissal of dancers from Pre-Primary to Level 2 is supervised with the help of class assistants. Class times have been staggered as much as possible to reduce the number of people in the building.
- Attendance is taken for every class, which may be needed for contact tracing.
- Class sizes are limited due to physical distance measures and the size of each studio. Other factors that influence class sizes will include the style of dance and the age of the dancers in the class. We are adhering to the provincial government's requirement to maintain a maximum of 50 people per indoor facility.
- A hybrid of in-studio and at-home learning is in use via ZOOM.
- There will be no body contact (eg. hugs, high fives, holding hands, partner work etc).

What Dancers and Parents Can Expect During Drop Off/Class Time/Pick-Up:

Anyone entering OSCB must complete a Self-Assessment prior to arrival. This assessment can be found at the end of this document. Students must not come to class if, within the last 14 days they have been unwell or have had contact with a known or suspected case of COVID-19.

Parents are asked to advise the studio of any absences from class, whether they be in-studio or at-home (Zoom) classes.

Students are encouraged to use the washroom and wash their hands at home, prior to coming to the studio. Students should remain in their vehicle until approximately 5-10 minutes prior to class. Students should line up outside of the ballet school, practicing physical distancing. Parents may line up with younger students, but will not be allowed to proceed past inside entrance to the ballet school on the second floor.

Children will be met by either their teacher or class supervisor, will then hand sanitize, pick up a white bin and place their bag and outdoor clothing in the bin. They will then be escorted to their star to line up for class. Upon entering class, the children will place their bins along the back wall 2 metres apart, and proceed to their spot on the floor.

No other family members (siblings included) will be allowed in the ballet school.

In keeping with the Halton Region Face Covering By-Law, anyone over the age of 5, entering the Oakville School of Classical Ballet must wear a face mask. Dancers under the age of 5 may also wear a face mask if their parent prefers. Once dancers are in their physically distanced spots in the ballet studio, they may remove their mask and place it in a Ziploc bag or case inside their bin. During the month of September, and until further notice, all students over the age of 5 will be required to wear a mask for classes. Exemptions are made for justifiable medical reasons; please discuss with Ms. Paterson. Students will follow social distance stars in the waiting areas to line up for classes.

Students should come dressed and ready for class. While weather permits, all outer wear (sweaters, pants, jackets) are to be left in their vehicle. Clothing that is worn into the studio must fit into the bins. Students are encouraged to have their own small bottle of hand sanitizer, labelled with their name. Dancers who have more than one class in a row and need a snack between class will wash their hands before and after eating, and all garbage/containers will be taken home. Snacks must be NUT FREE.

Our Lost and Found has been removed. Please ensure that all personal items are labelled as any unidentified left items will be accumulated and disposed of.

Each studio has been marked with 2m X 2m boxes to show each student's space. This will help to guide students to keep physically distanced during class. Teachers will incorporate these boxes creatively within the dance curriculum.

Students are permitted to use the washrooms if needed, and must wear a mask when moving from the studio to the washroom. Students must wash their hands and use hand sanitizer before re-entering the studio space.

Students will be reminded to avoid touching their face (eyes/nose/mouth) and to practice respiratory etiquette (coughing/sneezing into a bent elbow, disposing of tissue in the trash and using hand sanitizer). When class is over, students will line up practicing physical distancing. They will use hand sanitizer as they leave the studios.

Parents are asked to be punctual when picking up their children, and to wait just inside the main doors.

At-Home Learning

All classes will also be broadcast live via Zoom. Each studio has been set up with high speed internet, and new computers with webcams in order to make Zoom an option.

If our class registration exceeds the number of people permitted in our facility, we will implement a hybrid class rotation system, so that everyone has a chance to dance in person at the studio. This would mean alternating one week in the studio and one week dancing at home on Zoom.

If a dancer or **anyone in their household** is unwell, the dancer will not be permitted to attend class at the studio. In this instance, students will be able to participate in class via Zoom at home.

If a staff member is not feeling well, but is well enough to teach, we will avoid cancelling classes and teach via Zoom (either with students supervised at the studio, or at home on Zoom - communicated on a case by case basis).

If one of our teachers needs to self-isolate for any reason, this can be supported by having classes run on Zoom.

If the Oakville School of Classical Ballet is required to suspend in-studio classes due to an emergency declaration or other required closure(s), all classes will continue via Zoom. Refunds and discounts will not be provided for Zoom classes.

Feeling ill?

Dancers/family members who become ill or are displaying or feeling symptoms must self-isolate and will not be permitted to take part in dance classes.

If a dancer expresses or exhibits COVID-19 related symptoms while at the studio, their family will be notified and the dancer will be sent home immediately. Parents will be asked to contact the local Public Health Unit to advise of their symptoms.

The symptoms of COVID-19 are similar to other illnesses, including the cold and flu. At this time, it is recommended that any dancer who has respiratory symptoms or any symptoms of illness will be sent home. Public Health Ontario has provided helpful guidance on self-monitoring and self-isolation. In addition, the dancer's family should complete the online self-assessment and/or call their family physician or Telehealth 1-866-797-000.