

Guidance for Teaching Woodwind Instruments from September 2020

General

- follow the instrument specific guidance provided below
- follow the guidelines outlined in the individual school/college safety plan and risk assessments, and adhere to strict physical distancing and hygiene rules
- limit the amount of contacts made with other adults in school/college, keeping these to an absolute minimum and if possible, for as short as possible (ideally below 15 minutes)
- if a student shows the symptoms of COVID-19 a member of the school staff or the school office should be informed immediately. The school will isolate the child and make arrangements to send them home.

A setting-specific assessment should be undertaken, with consideration given to

- the size of each teaching room; determine how many pupils can use it at any one time while maintaining the relevant physical distances between everybody
- introducing enhanced cleaning of all facilities and equipment
- ensuring physical distancing guidance is followed
- ensuring good hygiene practices are in place
- ensuring that the use of shared instruments and equipment is avoided
- ensuring that all equipment is cleaned and disinfected regularly
- adjusting timetabling/entry procedures to enable pupils to clean instruments and avoid bottle necks at the start and finish of lessons
- good ventilation is recommended in all settings
- if weather permits, is an outside space available

Physical distancing

- a minimum of 1 metre physical distancing between adults, and between adults and children should always be maintained
- although physical distancing between children is no longer required, in schools it is recommended that a minimum of 1 metre physical distancing between children that are not in the same school bubble or school year grouping is maintained where possible
- a minimum of 3 metres physical distancing should be maintained wherever practical and no less than 2 metres from anyone when singing or playing woodwind or brass instruments

Lesson groups (woodwind)

- all one-to-one lessons are permitted if relevant physical distancing (see below) is maintained
- paired teaching is permitted where it can be achieved within the mitigations set out within this guidance.

Instruments and equipment (woodwind)

- there should be no sharing of instruments
- pupils should not share music stands (where the school is not able to provide enough stands for all students in a group, students should be encouraged to bring their own stand)
- music stands should be wiped by the student at the end of the lesson, ensuring that the wipes are disposed of in a bin
- there should be no sharing of music. Students should keep their own music and bring it to lessons
- ensure that instruments are properly cleaned and dried at the end of each lesson (this can be done outside the teaching room)
- if maintenance needs to be carried out on a pupil's instrument (sticky pad etc.) wear disposable gloves (disposing of them after use) and adhere to the physical distancing guidance provided above.
- if adjustments need to be carried out on a pupil's reed (scrapping down etc.) wear disposable gloves (disposing of them after use) and adhere to the physical distancing guidance provided above.

GCSE and A Level Students

If pupils are studying for GCSE or A Level music and recording an ensemble performance, a maximum of 3 people can perform/play together for the purposes of assessment, provided that physical distancing is maintained, and all other instrument specific guidance is followed.