



Getting Back to the Studio

Guidelines for Dancers, Parents/Guardians & Faculty

1: The Eight Count Ltd. will be following all guidelines and protocols set in place by section 22 of Wellington Dufferin Guelph Public Health and the Ontario Government.

2: Public Health authorities allow larger group training in accordance with local guidelines

3: The following criteria is required for participation in large group training environments:

- a. No signs or symptoms of COVID-19 in the past 14 days. Medical clearance is required to participate in training if a dancer has a previously documented COVID-19 infection.
- b. No close contact with individuals known to have been exposed to COVID-19 in the last 14 days.
- c. If a participant in a large training group is to test positive, a 48-hour pause will be placed on that group's in-person training sessions until all potential contacts have a confirmed negative COVID-19 test.

4: Modified Use of Studio Space

- a. Upon arrival at the studio, an administrator is to record a verbal consent confirming that the dancer is asymptomatic. Should a dancer present with signs and symptoms of COVID-19 they will be directed home and instructed to contact their health care provider. Other teachers, dancers, and parents are to be notified about the possible exposure; however, the dancer's name will remain **unidentified** to protect the privacy of the individual.
- b. Dancers are not to bring extra personal items into the practice area. Dancers are encouraged to remove street shoes at the entrance.
- c. Dancers are discouraged from sitting in the lobby between classes.
- d. The number of dancers in any one class is expanded, and variable depending based on the size of the practice space.
- e. Higher intensity training may result in greater dispersion of droplets due to intense breathing and participant movement. When possible, dancers should confine themselves to a designated section of the practice space. Teachers are encouraged to work on skills that do not require physical contact with other dancers. Turn sequences, balance and strength exercises, and centre-work are all appropriate.
- f. Studio owners are encouraged to group dancers into "training sets" or large training groups and minimize the interaction between groups.
- g. Partner work with 1-2 other dancers is permitted. Dancers are to remain with their same partner and not change partners at the next class.
- h. No spectators are to enter the studio to observe practices.
- i. Reduced class sizes to maintain room temperature at manageable levels.

5: Pick-up and Drop-off

- a) Currently we are requesting all parents/guardians to await entry into our facility until advised by an Eight Count staff member. Please arrive 5-8 minutes prior to your dancer's class time to allow "flow of traffic".
- b) At dismissal times, parents are to remain outside the facility and adhere to physical distancing protocols.
- c) We kindly request you use your own writing utensil to complete our screening procedures in studio or use the CHECK IN LINK provided.



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6: Screening Procedures

- a) All individuals, including dancers, parents/guardians, staff, contractors, and volunteers will be screened prior to arrival.
- b) Entry will be denied to any person who has any of the symptoms outlined below.
- c) Pre-screening prior to class attendance will be required in-person using the screening questionnaire below.

Did the individual have close contact with anyone with acute respiratory illness or travelled outside of Ontario in the past 14 days?

Does the person have a confirmed case of COVID-19 or had close contact with a confirmed case of COVID-19?

Does the person have any of the following symptoms?

- Fever (temperature of 37.8°C or greater)
 - New or worsening cough
 - Shortness of breath (dyspnea)
- Other symptoms of COVID-19 can include:*
- Sore throat
 - Difficulty swallowing
 - New olfactory or taste disorder(s)
 - Nausea/vomiting, diarrhea, abdominal pain
 - Runny nose, or nasal congestion – in absence of underlying reason for these symptoms such as seasonal allergies, postnasal drip, etc.

For additional information on symptoms, please see the reference document linked below. If your dancer shows any signs or symptoms, they must stay home, and the school must be contacted.

Resource: http://www.health.gov.on.ca/en/pro/programs/publichealth/coronavirus/docs/2019_reference_doc_symptoms.pdf

6: Ensuring Physical Distancing & Safety

- a) Only registered dancers may enter the building when advised by faculty, to reduce cross-over and maintain appropriate physical distance before and after their scheduled class time.
- b) Accurate capacity has been established and will comply with the order on total group numbers, always allowing for movement without encroachment, and to ensure physical distancing of two metres.
- c) Class start and end times may be altered to limit the number of students in common space and adhere to physical distancing requirements.
- d) All outdoor belongings (shoes, jackets, etc.) are to be placed in a personal bag and stored in “cubbies” provided at our front entrance or to be kept with parents/guardians outside of the Dance Studio.
- e) Space markers have been placed in common areas; two metre physical distancing requirements are always adhered to.
- f) Parents/guardians will be advised of necessary physical distancing requirements and encouraged to wait outside or in their vehicles where/when possible.
- g) Parents/guardians will be advised to wait outside of our facility with students until the designated drop off time, and to meet their dancer outside the building after class at the designated pick-up time.
- h) Dancer's safe exiting of the building to a parent/guardian will be monitored by staff.
- i) Parents/guardians must sign an acknowledgment of Dance Studio policies.
- j) Face masks are required for all dancers.



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7: Sanitation

- a. Hand washing policies and procedures will be posted throughout the facility. Dancers are to wash hands before and after each class. Used tissue, disinfectant wipes, and litter is disposed of daily.
 - b. Frequently touched surfaces (doorknobs, light switches, toilet handles, sinks, barres) will be disinfected
 - c. Disinfectants that have a Drug Identification Number (DIN) or low-level hospital grade disinfectants will be used.
 - d. Staff will wear appropriate PPE while cleaning and sanitizing.
 - e. Disposable towels, spray cleaners, or disposable wipes, will be made available to regularly clean and disinfect commonly used surfaces.
 - f. Washrooms will be for urgent use only and disinfected after each use.
 - g. No sharing of personal items including food and water bottles.
- All training surfaces will be thoroughly cleaned according to Health Canada guidelines after **each class**. This includes all barre surfaces and floors.

8: Prevention

- a) Maintain physical distancing of at least two metres (approximately 6 feet) or more between persons, including clients, dancers, and co-workers.
- b) Promote good hygiene:
 - *Wash hands often with soap and water upon arrival, before and after any breaks, at the beginning and end of each class, or use alcohol-based hand sanitizer (> 60% alcohol) if hand washing is not possible.*
 - *Avoid touching face including eyes, nose, and mouth.*
 - *Avoid high-touch areas where possible, or ensure hands are washed or sanitized after.*
 - *Everyone will be encouraged to follow respiratory etiquette (e.g. coughing or sneezing into a bent elbow, promptly disposing of used tissues in the trash).*
- c) Employees will not report to work if they are exhibiting COVID-19 symptoms or are under self isolation or quarantine.
- d) Dancers will be informed not to attend the studio or classes if they are exhibiting COVID-19 symptoms or are under self-isolation or quarantine.
- e) Regular cleaning and disinfection will be implemented.
- f) Minimize contact with people who are sick and ensure controls are in place for the protection of employees, contractors, and students.

9: Communication and Governance

- a. All members of The Eight Count Ltd. are to be fully informed of all safety measures.
 - b. Relevant signage is in place to clearly communicate social distance measures.
 - c. All participants must self monitor for symptoms of COVID-19. If any signs or symptoms are present, the participant should not attend studio classes, should notify teachers, and should contact their healthcare provider.
 - d. Dancers must record the results of their self-monitoring on a paper or electronic log that will be monitored by teachers.
 - e. Faculty will track all absences as they occur. Records will be kept assisting in tracking if an absence is due to symptoms or a diagnosis consistent with COVID-19. Record management will be kept diligently while respecting privacy policies. The Eight Count will maintain accurate and up-to-date contact information for all staff, contractors, students, and visitors.
- This information will include: • Name • Phone Number • Home Address • Medical Conditions • Parent/Guardian Name and Contact Information • Agreement to The Eight Count's Policies and Guidelines



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The Eight Count will provide records as required for the purpose of conducting contact-tracing during the COVID-19 pandemic to Provincial/Local Public Health officials.

10: Management of Dancers with Symptoms of COVID-19

- a) Immediately separated from others in a supervised area until dancer can go home.
- b) Parents/Guardians and local public health will be contacted to notify them of a potential case and seek advice regarding the information that should be shared with other parents/students.
- c) Hand hygiene and respiratory etiquette will be practiced while the dancer is waiting to be picked up.
- d) Masks will remain on the dancer for proper respiratory etiquette.
- e) Environmental cleaning of any space the dancer was in contact with will be conducted upon pick up.
- f) Other dancers and staff in the Studio, who were present while said dancer became ill, will be identified as a close contact and grouped together. If contact occurs during after hours for the public health unit, all dancers identified as a close contact will be sent home until direction is received the following day.
- g) Dancers or staff who have been exposed to a confirmed case of COVID-19 will be required to stay home and self-isolate for 14 days.

11: Retail Items

- a) If trying on merchandise, please sanitize hands before trying on clothes. Items that were tried on will be isolated for 24 hours.
- b) Surfaces in the change room/restroom will be cleaned and disinfected after use.
- c) The Eight Count will no longer accept returns on any items purchased during this time.
- d) We will ensure physical distancing of two metres between customers and staff and will now have a "By appointment" only to manage customer flow.

12: Safety Protocols at a Glance

- **Masks** are to be always worn.
- **6' physical distancing** measures as directed by the Ontario Provincial Health Authority are in place.
- **Hand Sanitizers** are available at our front entrance, hallway, bathroom and in studio. Dancers are to sanitize or wash hands before and after class.
- **Cleaning** has been increased; before, after and during.
- **Personal Belongings** If it is necessary to bring a bag please ensure it is closed and placed in the lobby.
- **No bare feet** in the studio unless your dancer(s) is within an acrobatics class.
- **Contact Tracing** needs to be completed on each arrival to the studio.
- **Contactless payments:** *No Cash Please.* E-transfers requested as our Debit machine currently does not have "Tap".