

Updated: September 15, 2020



Music. Theatre. Passion. Igniting the creative talents of young performers.

SaskExpress 2020-2021 COVID-19 **Response & Policy**

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STUDIO COVID SAFETY PROCEDURE

We are extremely excited to welcome both new and returning families to our 2020-2021 season, and we have been diligent in defining new processes to ensure a safe return to studio classes. We remain committed to providing an inclusive, inspiring, and family-friendly space for all of our students, while keeping health and safety a top priority for our studio families, staff, and community. We have created a plan with the current health and safety information available from government and public health officials, and we will continue to update our processes to remain aligned with these recommendations. We thank you for your cooperation as we continue to navigate this new normal for the studio.

Please Note: Tuition fees will not be refunded or pro-rated for any classes missed due to symptoms of illness. In the event of any studio closures due to COVID-19, previously collected tuition fees are non-refundable. Should a studio closure be required, all classes will be automatically moved to an online delivery platform following the regular class schedule.

VIRTUAL CLASSES

If your student is not feeling well and is unable to come to class in person, attending virtually is an option. If you are needing to attend virtually, please email studio@saskexpress.com **by 4:30 PM on the day of your class (or 9:00 AM for Saturday classes)**. At the time of your class, join the appropriate Zoom link (listed below by class location). Please turn on your video and mute your audio, unless otherwise asked by the class instructor.

- Studio 1/Theatre Zoom Link: [Click here](#)
- Studio 2 Zoom Link: [Click here](#) (Meeting password: 6pdbrz)
- Studio 3/Vocal Tech Link: [Click here](#) (Meeting password: 889294)

STUDIO TRAFFIC FLOW

Please see below for a step by step breakdown of the new traffic flow and entering/exiting procedure.

1. Enter the studio through the **south doors** no more than **5 minutes before your scheduled class time**.
 - One parent/guardian may accompany young dancers (under 6 years) into the building.
 - All parents/guardians entering the building **must wear a face mask**. If there are medical reasons that restrict you from wearing a mask, please contact us to discuss.
 - All musical theatre students must **remember to pack their provided face shield** (see below for details).
 - All students ages 8 and up **must wear a face mask** in the hallways (when transitioning for classes or on breaks).
2. Check in at the **sanitization station**. Everyone entering the building must sanitize their hands upon entry, and all students and instructors will be **temperature screened**.

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- Any students registering outside the acceptable temperature range (**38 degrees Celsius and above**) will NOT be permitted to attend class until they have been fever free for 24 hours.
- 3. Follow the **one-way directional arrows down the hallway** to your designated studio space.
 - All students will place outer wear on the designated coat/boot racks outside their studio space.
 - Parents/guardians may assist young dancers and then continue down the hallway, exiting through the north doors of the building.
- 4. Dancers with breaks in between classes may wait in the **dancer waiting area** (also known as our SaskExpress Walk of Fame and theatre!). Distancing will be adhered to in this space.
 - All other waiting spaces, including the kitchen, are closed.
- 5. When class is over, one parent/guardian per young dancer may again enter the studio through the south doors for pick-up. Everyone will exit through the north doors of the building.

INSPIRING NEW BEGINNINGS

We look forward to working with our staff and students to find new opportunities, create new milestones, and ultimately inspire new beginnings with the following health and safety protocols in place:

1) Point your toes, but don't touch your nose (or anyone else's!)

- We ask that all families educate their dancers about the new policies and physical distancing measures in place at the studio. While in class, students will be expected to stay within their designated area, keeping their hands to themselves. Instructors will be wearing face masks or shields for all classes. Due to the nature of singing, students enrolled in musical theatre and vocal technique classes will also be required to wear a face shield. These will be provided on the first day of class, and all registered students will be charged an associated one-time \$10 fee. After being distributed on the first day, these shields will become each student's responsibility. Students must remember to sanitize their shields in between use and bring them to the studio for every class, similar to a school supply.
 - Dancers are not required to wear face masks in any other class disciplines, but are welcome to do so if they choose. Students with breaks lasting longer than 15 minutes are asked to pack a face mask.

2) Dancing apart, yet closer in heart

- Class sizes and placements will adhere to relevant distancing and gathering restrictions. We will be utilizing the 2 entrances of our studio building to create a one-way flow of traffic and prevent hallway congestion. Everyone will enter through the south doors,

follow the one-way arrows down the hallway, and exit through the north doors. One parent per young dancer (under 6 years) is permitted to enter the studio for drop-off and pick-up if necessary, and all parents/guardians will be required to wear a face mask when entering the building (masks will not be supplied by the studio). Extra buffer times have been built into the schedule for Saturday classes as an additional precaution. For stacked classes without buffer times, 5 minutes at the end of class will be used for sanitization and cleaning.

- The schedule currently indicates that students will be switching studios for back to back classes (ie. Studio 1 for ballet and Studio 2 for hip hop). Although we hope to be able to use the rooms assigned to best optimize our space, we will revise to keep groups of the same dancers in a consistent studio if required.

3) *Be wise, sanitize*

- Students and staff will sanitize or wash their hands upon entry into the building and after every class. All frequently touched surfaces (ie. door knobs, ballet barres, mats, bottle fill station) will be sanitized between every class. Students and instructors will be temperature screened upon entering the studio. Any student registering a temperature 38 degrees Celsius and above will not be permitted to attend studio classes until they are fever free for 24 hours.
 - As such, parents/guardians should remain in their vehicles for 5 minutes after dropping students off in the event they do not pass the temperature screening.

4) *The kitchen (and hallway) is closed for business*

- Our hallway and parent waiting area will be closed until further notice. Dancers with breaks in their schedule may remain in the designated dancer waiting area. Please note that remaining at the studio will only be permitted in between classes - dancers who are done class are asked to be picked up promptly. Young dancers with a 15 minute break between Saturday classes will be able to remain in their designated studio until their next class starts.

5) *It may be tough, but don't share your stuff*

- Sharing of food, hair accessories, dance attire, or other personal belongings will not be permitted at the studio. We will also not be able to provide shared treats to any classes, so please avoid bringing birthday cupcakes, Halloween candy, etc. The studio water fountain will be closed, but the water bottle filling station will be available. Therefore, all dancers should bring a water bottle to class, but please avoid bringing any other unnecessary personal items from home.

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- Upon entering the studio, dancers will place outer wear on the designated coat rack outside their studio. 1 small bag may be taken into the studio space.

6) Be on time, every time

- Dancers are to arrive dressed for class to limit traffic in and out of our public washroom facilities and enter the studio no more than 5 minutes before their class starts. Parents entering the building to pick-up young dancers at the end of class are required to wait until the class is over to enter the building. The studio has a parking lot and many street parking spaces available for the convenience of parents who would like to wait in their vehicles. It is appreciated that all efforts are made to spend as little time in the studio hallways as possible.

7) If you're sick, stay home

- If you are exhibiting **any** symptoms of illness, **do not** come to class. Please email studio@saskexpress.com to notify us of any absences; all attendance policies have been amended with illness considered an exemption. Please see section above for information on joining class virtually.
 - Families will be responsible for self-monitoring dancers for COVID-19 symptoms identified by public health authorities, disclosing any symptoms to the studio, and not attending studio functions in the event of suspected illness.
 - Instructors will also be expected to self-monitor and not attend class if they are feeling sick.

By registering for the 2020-2021 season, you are acknowledging that you understand the policies and procedures in place to ensure everyone's safety, voluntarily accept the risk of potential exposure to COVID-19, and understand that all studio schedules and policies are subject to change. Families are also accepting responsibility to monitor registered dancers for symptoms identified by public health authorities, disclose any symptoms to studio management, stay home from all studio events in the event of suspected or confirmed illness or exposure, and adhere to any travel-related isolation protocols identified by health authorities. By completing registration, you are releasing SaskExpress and all associated representatives and employees of liability for potential exposure to COVID-19 and agreeing to comply with the policies implemented, while understanding the many precautions in place to mitigate such risk.