



# KEYWORTH SCHOOL OF THEATRE DANCE

1 November 2020

Just some information so you all know what has been happening the last couple of days, or scroll to the end to see from the lockdown announcement onwards and outcome:

Since the new tier 3 restrictions came into play this week we have spent hours trying to get clarification on our position. The government guidance for tier 3 areas allows children's out of school activities. However, on top of the tier 3 measures Rushcliffe Borough Council added in some further restrictions which have put classes such as ours into question. They will not allow activities in their settings.

We had therefore been faced with finding an alternative venue for all Thursday Village Hall classes (street and musical theatre). We had been successful in finding an alternative non-council owned venue but we still needed confirmation from a local councillor that under 18 activities are permitted within tier 3 'plus' areas in other venues than their own such as a privately owned building. Webster Hall and the Table Tennis Pavilion are not council owned.

All we had to go on is that 'dance studios are permitted to be open but group exercise is strongly advised against' (which was suggested as 'adult only' advice) and that 'public buildings, parish halls and community buildings can stay open for childcare and various other reasons....' (but no mention of children's activities).

We had been led to believe if we owned our own studio, we could run face to face private sessions or continue in our Covid-secure careful way or use a mixture of outdoor, studio and zoom. We were also advised to speak to our MP. We are still waiting for a reply.

This took us to yesterday evening when the government have very quickly taken us all to the next step.

As we still really don't know if before Thursday's first day of lockdown we can run classes, we shall start Block 2 on Monday on Zoom where we shall remain for at least 4 weeks. We are not aware of all the latest guidance as they haven't been published yet. 'Gyms and leisure facilities will close and amateur sports are not permitted'.

We follow the 'out of school settings' guidance and have assumed that we will be forced to close all these types of activities during this lockdown period. After this time we will still need to gain clarity of what venues we are permitted to use (the church hall is very happy for us to use it if the guidance permits).

We fear the November exams will be postponed which may also affect the December ones. However we do not yet know about this for sure. We also are not sure if we can offer 1:1s. Again we have assumed not during lockdown. We can offer classes and 1:1s on Zoom however which are worthwhile.

We shall work on the Zoom timetable now and release as soon as possible. Most sessions will be at the day and time that they are currently face to face (after school and Saturdays).

Tomorrow's (Monday 2 November) sessions will be at the same time they are normally. The joining instructions will be sent via email as soon as possible.

We shall assume everyone will be 'Zooming' with us so please tell us otherwise if your child is not joining us for whatever reason. We would need to know if they are **not**. This time we are offering all the current classes online. If we don't hear from you, you will receive the timetable and joining information before your first class next week. The adjustment to fees (as Zoom is slightly cheaper than face to face) will be credited automatically in the next payment block. We ask those who have not yet previously taken Zoom classes with KSTD to complete the online agreement form as soon as possible – you will have received a separate email with the link if this applies to you/your child.

We are very disappointed to be faced with this situation again but hope if we all do our bit in preventing the spread then we can open again very soon. In the meantime we will continue to get clarity on venues for when we come out of lockdown.

We hope you all understand and bear with us while we sort everything.

Thanks and stay safe

Kirsty, Ann and all the KSTD team  
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