

APRIL 2021

REOPENING INFORMATION

STARTING THIS JUNE



PURPOSE

Our priority will always be to provide the highest quality music lessons to our community, but that also includes helping each family evaluate the current health risks in order for to you can decide which type of lessons work best for you. We created this document by gathering as much information as possible from government health authorities and with peers in public and private schools. Tone Academy of Music will continue to update our policies and procedures in full transparency adhering to any future governmental health guidelines as well as data from accredited scientific agencies.

We are committed to our due diligence in sharing this information with you, but it is in no way complete. Hopefully it serves to inform our community of how we can best create an environment conducive to both learning and safety. Our goal is that the Tone community understand our policies and procedures by understanding the facts that predicated those decisions. Virtual lessons will continue to be offered - and any family electing to have in-person lessons are choosing to forgo the option of virtual lessons provided by Tone Academy as an alternative that is equal in quality and encouraged by a discount in tuition.



Quick Look:

Changes Starting June 2021

- Students may continue virtual lessons and may opt for virtual lessons at any time during the semester.
- Lessons taught in-person require wearing a mask at all times.
- The planned reopening date of in-person lessons, as well as any protocols, may change as guidance from health officials evolve. The Tone community should be prepared for the potential forestalling of in-person lessons and periods of virtual-only lessons.
- Tone Academy is now accepting registration for Summer (June through August) and Fall (beginning the week of 9/19) Semesters offering families the choice of lessons on a first come/serve basis:
 - Virtual
 - In-Person at Tone Academy of Music
 - In-Home
- Tone Academy of Music reserves the right to convert in-person lessons to virtual based on governmental health guidelines, rates of infection and/or trends of infection at any time.

CONTENTS

The following sections reflect the questions we are all asking ourselves right now.

As you decide which type of lessons to register for, we respect that assessing the risks are unique to each family. We are providing you our re-opening protocols within the framework of these questions because we believe it is also important provide the reasons why these new policies are in place. As music educators, we never thought we'd need to make these decisions! In the months ahead, we want you to be confident that we will continue to be transparent and welcoming to conversations with you.

More Information:



NYT, "What You Can Do Once You're Vaccinated," 3/30/21

CDC, "Interim Public Health Recommendations for Fully Vaccinated People," 4/2/21

ASSESSING RISK FACTORS OF THE ACTIVITY

← LOWER RISK

HIGHER RISK →

1. Is it indoors?

Yes

No

↳ Is there good ventilation?

You may not know exactly what HVAC system is used, but open doors or windows can increase ventilation.

Yes

No

2. Will you be there for more than one hour?

Yes

No

3. Will the activity be high intensity or involve shouting?

Yes

No

NYT, Alvaro Dominguez, 3/30/21

A closer look at our answers

#1 Lessons at Tone Academy or in private homes are naturally held indoors. Any indoor activity has higher risk factors, but especially when potentially contaminated air can build up over time in a given space.

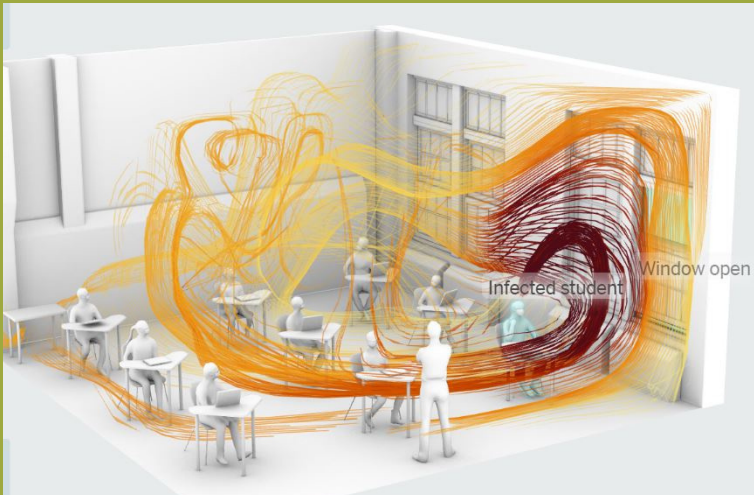
Tone Academy's windows are located at the back of the building opening out to an alley that does not create much air circulation.

The dense reddish fog shows a high concentration of contaminants spreading far beyond six feet from the infected student. If the student were sitting elsewhere, the pattern would be different but the buildup in the room would be similar.

SCENARIO 1
Window closed



Concentration of
contaminants
More
Less



NYT, "Why Opening Windows Is Key To Reopening Schools," 2/26/21

There may be some months that windows can be kept open at home or in private homes, however determining the correct airflow for a location can be quite challenging

 This article also includes an augmented reality feature to view on your device.

#2 Lessons are typically held for less than an hour, however it is important to understand that "Public Health Officials use 15 minutes as the threshold of exposure to determine if someone is at risk for infection."

#3 Yes. No matter the instrument, teachers and students will be singing, clapping, cheering, and laughing throughout the lesson duration. Unfortunately, singing has been the cause of several mass COVID-19 transmission events in the past year. "Singing can produce a substantially larger number of respiratory droplets and aerosols than speaking, as it is louder and sustained for longer durations."



more info:

NYT, "What You Can Do Once You're Vaccinated," 3/30/21

NYT, "Why Opening Windows Is Key To Reopening Schools," 2/26/21

LA Times, "Choir Practice Turns Fatal," 3/29/20

Clinical Infectious Diseases, "Droplets and Aerosols Generated by Singing and the Risk of Coronavirus Disease 2019 for Choirs," 2020

ASSESSING RISK FACTORS FOR PARTICIPANTS



1. Will there be more than 10 people there? Yes No

2. Will you be around many people you don't know? Yes No

3. Is everyone there vaccinated? Yes No

4. Are they following health guidelines? Yes No

Such as wearing masks and social distancing.

NYT, Alvaro Dominguez, 3/30/21

A closer look at our answers

#1 Private in-person lessons must include the student, the teacher, and one adult in the room at all times in adherence to our Suzuki Method curriculum. However, it is important to understand that the lesson room (be that at Tone Academy or in a private home) will most likely be shared by more than 10 people within any given day. In other words, although a 30-minute lesson may only involve 3 individuals, the space (including air and surfaces) are usually in contact with more. Our cleaning procedures at Tone Academy include:

- A sanitizing UV-C light used to disinfect practice rooms prior to each lesson
- Frequent cleaning of high touch surfaces such as instruments, tables, and doors
- HEPA air purification in each practice room

Families registering for in-home lessons must agree to provide at least one of the above precautions as a prerequisite for in-person lessons.

#2 As stated above, lessons rooms will be utilized several times during each day, as well as the waiting rooms and public spaces within the building. This also applies to in-home lessons in which a teacher will be interacting with multiple families within a day as well as commuting through the public. This creates exponential contacts for potential transmission.

For example, one family's contact may include around 40 people



NYT, Tomi Um, 11/20/20



However, when seen in combination with other families, the contact from one lesson is easily over 100 people

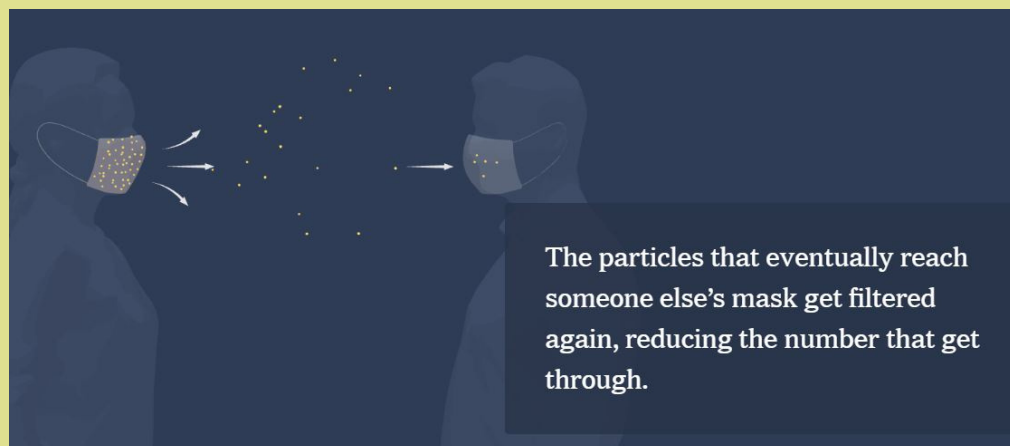
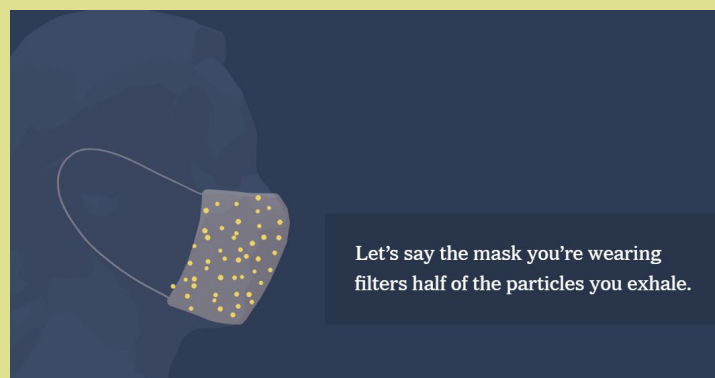
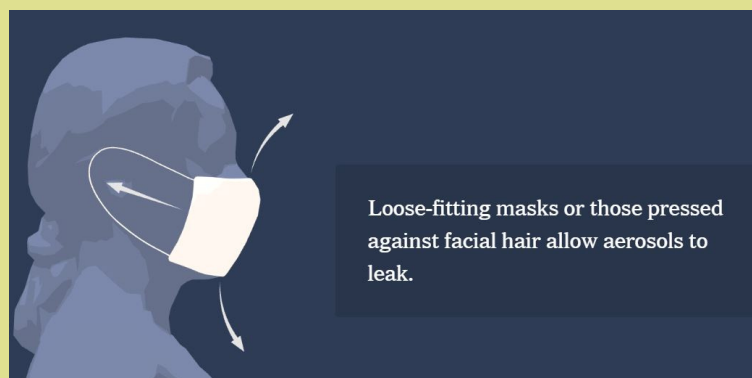
more info:



FDA, "UV Lights and Lamps: Ultraviolet-C Radiation, Disinfection, and Coronavirus," 2/1/21
 NYT, "Can HEPA Air Purifiers Capture the Coronavirus?" 11/18/20
 NYT, "I Traced My Covid-19 Bubble and It's Enormous," 11/20/20
 WP, "Workplace COVID Vaccine Policies," 3/6/21
 OSHA.gov
 CDC, "School Settings Toolkit," 4/2/21

#3 Current legal information and policies limit the ability for Tone Academy to inquire on any individual's vaccine and/or testing status, but OSHA guidelines mandates that businesses may "not distinguish between workers who are vaccinated and those who are not." Regardless, the vaccine is not currently available for children under 16 years old. The standard practice within the medical community is to operate under the assumption that individuals are not protected by the vaccine (ie: children, individuals with underlying health conditions, etc.). "Even after child care providers and staff are vaccinated, there will be a need to continue prevention measures for the foreseeable future including wearing masks, physical distancing, and other important prevention strategies," as stated by CDC guidelines.

#4 All teachers, students, siblings, and adults are required to wear a face mask at all times for the duration of any in-person lesson. This includes families electing for in-home lessons - meaning all individuals must agree that every member present within the home will wear a mask while the lesson is occurring. Since in-home instructors will be visiting multiple households, "there is a higher risk of SARS-CoV-2 transmission...therefore, all people involved should take precautions including wearing a well-fitted mask." Tone Academy will provide face masks if requested.



This article also includes an augmented reality feature to view on your device

NYT, "Masks Work. Really. We'll Show You How," 10/30/20

ASSESSING RISK FACTORS FOR YOUR CIRCLE

← LOWER RISK

HIGHER RISK →

1. Are there kids in your circle?

Yes

No

2. Are any adults in your household or circle unvaccinated?

Yes

No

3. Are any people in your household or circle immune-compromised, or unvaccinated and high risk?


Yes

No

NYT, Alvaro Dominguez, 3/30/21

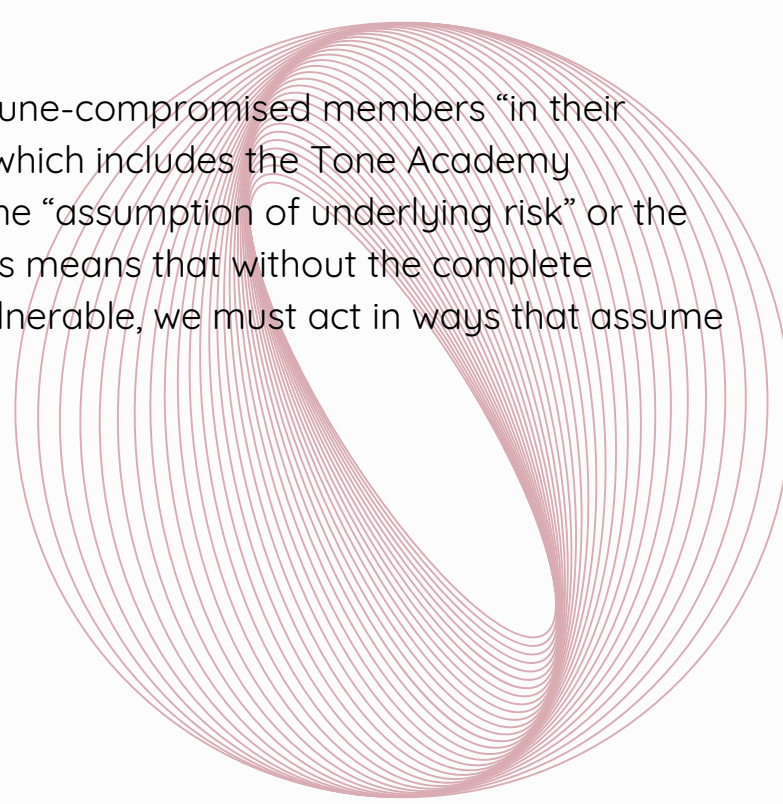
A closer look at our answers

#1 Although COVID-19 has been most infectious for adults and teenagers, children are not immune. The American Academy of Pediatrics recently reported: “As of April 1, nearly 3.47 million children have tested positive for COVID-19 since the onset of the pandemic. After slight increases in cases over the past two weeks, new reported cases were similar to the prior week – about 64,000 new child cases.”



#2 Guidance regarding health status privacy is an evolving issue, and Tone Academy is barred from requiring participants to be vaccinated at this time. Furthermore, it is important to protect those members of our community who are unable to be vaccinated. Health officials have stated that 70-90% of the population would need to be inoculated for the risk of transmission to substantially slow. According to the latest research, the CDC has stated that vaccinated individuals could still become infected and/or transmit the virus.

#3 Although some families do not have immune-compromised members “in their household,” many community members do which includes the Tone Academy instructors. The standard set by the CDC is the “assumption of underlying risk” or the practice of “universal prevention.” Simply, this means that without the complete certainty that someone isn’t either sick or vulnerable, we must act in ways that assume everyone is potentially infected.



more info:

NYT, "What You Can Do Once You're Vaccinated," 3/30/21
WP, "Can COVID Herd Immunity Be Reached Without Vaccinating Kids? It's Complicated.," 2/22/21
American Academy of Pediatrics, "Children and COVID-19: State-Level Data Report," 4/1/21
NYT, "Can Vaccinated People Spread the Virus? We Don't Know, Scientists Say.," 4/1/21
CDC MMWR, "Recommendations for Prevention of HIV Transmission in Health-Care Settings," 8/21/87

ASSESSING RISK FACTORS FOR YOUR LOCATION

New York, New York

← LOWER RISK

HIGHER RISK →

The C.D.C defines a high transmission rate of the coronavirus as 100 total cases per 100,000 people. Your county has a total of **438** cases per 100,000 over the past seven days, giving it a **high** risk rating

Test positivity refers to the proportion of tests in your community coming back positive. Your county has a test positivity rate of **3%**

NYT, Alvaro Dominguez, 3/30/21

A closer look at our answers

We can't wait for the day when we can celebrate our victory in flattening the curve of infections in person, and we also empathize with the frustration of seeing the numbers go up recently. "The rapid spread of the B.1.526 variant, which made up more than 40 percent of sequenced cases in New York City as of mid-March, has prompted officials to say they believe it also could be a more infectious strain." Realistically, we must anticipate that there will be several re-openings and re-closures in the future.



More Info:

Tomas Pueyo, "The Hammer and the Dance," 3/19/20
NYT, "What You Can Do Once You're Vaccinated," 3/30/21

HIGHER RISK →


- | | | |
|--|-----|----|
| 1. Do you have underlying health risks for Covid-19? | Yes | No |
| 2. If you get sick, can you afford to stop working and isolate? | Yes | No |
| 3. Will you have access to sick leave, testing and essential supplies if you get sick? | Yes | No |

11

CONCLUSION ASSESSMENT

Every Tone Academy instructor wants nothing more than to be back to in-person lessons – guiding and celebrating the progress their students are making. The past year has brought an untold amount of grief and challenges and we are eager to put it behind us. However, our mission to provide the highest-quality music education also includes our commitment to the health and safety of our community. In an unknown future within the context of the recent rise in COVID-19 infections, it is very likely that there will be pauses in offering in-person lessons replaced by virtual lessons following guidance from government health agencies. One thing that we've all learned since the pandemic began is how to manage changes to our plans as the situation or science changes our circumstances. We are immensely grateful to all of the students, parents, and teachers for their support.

Ms. Jennu & Mr. Michael



▶ **Beginning Summer & Fall 2021**

*Registration for Spring Semester still available
\$35 Yearly registration fee for Fall

30 MINUTE SUMMER LESSONS	30 MINUTE FALL LESSONS
\$45 PER LESSON	14 WEEK SEMESTER \$630
ADD ON MUSIC READING & MUSICIANSHIP GROUP CLASS 14 WEEK SEMESTER \$300	

ToneAcademyofMusic.com 212.966.3975 REGISTRAR@TONEACADEMYOFMUSIC.COM



► Beginning Summer & Fall 2021

Reopening and safety handbook will be available on April 10th

**\$35 Yearly registration fee for Fall*

**30 MINUTE
SUMMER
LESSONS**

4 FOR \$300

**30 MINUTE FALL
LESSONS**

14 WEEK
SEMESTER \$1050

registration includes

**30 MINUTE IN
PERSON PRIVATE
LESSON AT TONE
ACADEMY OF MUSIC**

**30 MINUTE VIRTUAL
MUSICIANSHIP AND
MUSIC READING
GROUP CLASS**

**PRACTICE GUIDE
BOOK AND GROUP
CLASS CARE
PACKAGES**

ToneAcademyofMusic.com

212.966.3975

REGISTRAR@TONEACADEMYOFMUSIC.COM



► Beginning Summer & Fall 2021

Reopening and safety handbook will be available on April 10th

**\$35 Yearly registration fee for Fall*

**30 MINUTE
SUMMER
LESSONS**

4 FOR \$380

**30 MINUTE FALL
LESSONS**

14 WEEK
SEMESTER \$1330

registration includes

**30 MINUTE IN
PERSON
PRIVATE LESSON
IN YOUR HOME**

**30 MINUTE VIRTUAL
MUSICIANSHIP AND
MUSIC READING
GROUP CLASS**

**PRACTICE GUIDE
BOOK AND GROUP
CLASS CARE
PACKAGES**

ToneAcademyofMusic.com

212.966.3975

REGISTRAR@TONEACADEMYOFMUSIC.COM

NEWLY ESTABLISHED HEALTH & SAFETY PROTOCOLS FOR Lessons Held at Tone Academy of Music

April, 2021

- 1) Staggered Scheduling:** A very limited number of lessons will be held concurrently, and whenever possible only one instructor will be holding classes at a time. Staggering the instructor schedules will result in a more limited schedule and available lesson times.
- 2) Illness Screening:** Guardians must self-check themselves and their accompanying child for any symptoms prior to arrival. Upon signs of illness, a virtual lesson will be held in place of the in-person lesson. These symptoms include: fever or chills, cough, shortness of breath or difficulty breathing, fatigue, muscle or body aches, headache, new loss of taste or smell, sore throat, congestion or runny nose, nausea or vomiting, diarrhea.
- 3) Hand Hygiene:** Wash hands upon arrival at the studio with soap and water for at least 20 seconds. Thoroughly dry hands after washing. Hand sanitizer (that contains at least 60% alcohol) will be provided as well.
- 4) Ventilation:** Each practice room and common area will have a HEPA air purifier (removing 99. 97% of airborne contaminants as small as 0. 3 microns) that will exchange the air in each room several times per hour. However, Tone Academy is unable to open any windows due to potential damage to the instruments.
- 5) Vaccination:** We strongly request that every adult become vaccinated prior to in-person lessons. The COVID-19 vaccines are not yet approved for children and some adults with underlying health concerns. In compliance with HIPPA and OSHA regulations, Tone Academy and our instructors are prohibited from inquiring or providing vaccination status, but individuals may choose to make their vaccination status known on their own volition.
- 6) Masks:** Everyone 2 years and older must wear a mask at all times. This includes the practice rooms as well as the common areas as mandated by New York State. Masks must cover the mouth and nose. Masks will be provided upon request.
- 7) Attendees:** An adult guardian must accompany children inside of the practice room (as opposed to waiting outside). As Suzuki Method practitioners, we encourage practice partners to take notes on the lesson homework and request phones be put away, not only silenced.

Cont.

8) Physical Distancing: Please maintain at least 3 feet of distance at all times. For piano lessons, a second piano has been arranged in each practice room for the instructor to maintain social distance.

9) Shared Objects: To avoid sharing objects, please make sure the lesson notes, music, and instruments arrive with the student at every lesson.

10) Eating: If at all possible, please refrain from bringing any snacks to Tone Academy.

11) Cleaning and Disinfecting: Frequently touched items (ie: doors, tables, chairs, benches, instruments) will be cleaned between each lesson. A UV-C light will be placed in each practice room in between each lesson as recommended by the FDA.

12) Communication: Instructors will conduct virtual lessons in place of in-person lessons if they are sick, had close contact to a person with COVID-19, or have traveled out of the region within the previous 2 weeks. Students and their guardians are required to adhere to the same precautions.

more info:

CDC, "Symptoms of Coronavirus," 2/22/21

MD Anderson Cancer Center "Can air purifiers protect you from COVID-19?" 9/30/20

NYC.gov, "Title: Section 66-3.2 - Face-Coverings," 2/25/21

CDC, "CDC Updates Operational Strategy for K-12 Schools to Reflect New Evidence on Physical Distance in Classrooms," 3/19/21

CDC, "Cleaning and Disinfecting in School Classrooms," 8/6/20

NEWLY ESTABLISHED HEALTH & SAFETY PROTOCOLS FOR Lessons Held at Home

April, 2021

- 1) Scheduling:** Instructors will have limited weekly in-home lesson times available to allow for more flexibility navigating potentially crowded public transportation. As result, there will be limited available lesson times and flexibility for in-home lesson registrations.
- 2) Illness Screening:** Families must self-check themselves and their children for any symptoms prior to the instructor's arrival. Upon signs of illness, a virtual lesson will be held in place of the in-person lesson. These symptoms include: fever or chills, cough, shortness of breath or difficulty breathing, fatigue, muscle or body aches, headache, new loss of taste or smell, sore throat, congestion or runny nose, nausea or vomiting, diarrhea.
- 3) Hand Hygiene:** Instructors and students should wash hands upon arrival with soap and water for at least 20 seconds. Thoroughly dry hands after washing. Hand sanitizer (that contains at least 60% alcohol) will be provided for the instructors as well.
- 4) Ventilation:** The lesson area should be arranged in the largest room possible with the maximum air flow. We encourage opening windows and providing a HEPA air purifier if at all possible
- 5) Vaccination:** We strongly request that every adult become vaccinated prior to in-person lessons. The COVID-19 vaccines are not yet approved for children and some adults with underlying health concerns. In compliance with HIPPA and OSHA regulations, Tone Academy and our instructors are prohibited from inquiring or providing vaccination status, but individuals may choose to make their vaccination status known on their own volition.
- 6) Masks:** Everyone 2 years and older must wear a mask at all times. This policy includes every household member present in the home during the lesson time as mandated by New York State. Masks must cover the mouth and nose. Masks will be provided upon request.
- 7) Attendees:** An adult guardian must be present in the room that the lesson is held, and instructors are prohibited from being unaccompanied with students at any time. As Suzuki Method practitioners, we encourage practice partners to take notes on the lesson homework and request phones be put away, not only silenced.

Cont.

8) Physical Distancing: Please maintain at least 3 feet of distance at all times. Please arrange your practice area with seating for the instructor prior to your lesson.

9) Shared Objects: To avoid sharing objects, please make sure the lesson notes, music, pencils, markers and instruments are ready for every lesson. Please communicate with your instructor on where their shoes, coats and bags should be placed upon entering your home.

10) Eating: 1) If at all possible, please refrain from snacking during the lesson.

11) Cleaning and Disinfecting: : Frequently touched items (ie: doors, tables, chairs, benches, instruments) should be cleaned before each lesson.

12) Communication: Instructors will conduct virtual lessons in place of in-person lessons if they are sick, had close contact to a person with COVID-19, or have traveled out of the region within the previous 2 weeks. Students and their guardians are required to adhere to the same precautions.

more info:

CDC, "Symptoms of Coronavirus," 2/22/21

CDC, "HELP PROTECT YOUR FAMILY CHILD CARE HOME FROM COVID-19," 8/12/21

MD Anderson Cancer Center "Can air purifiers protect you from COVID-19?" 9/30/20

NYC.gov, "Title: Section 66-3.2 - Face-Coverings," 2/25/21

CDC, "CDC Updates Operational Strategy for K-12 Schools to Reflect New Evidence on Physical Distance in Classrooms," 3/19/21

CDC, "Cleaning and Disinfecting in School Classrooms," 8/6/20