

COVID-19 information for visitors

last reviewed: 14/08/2023

There are no restrictions on the approach to teaching and learning in higher education environments in England as a result of COVID-19. We continue to conduct risk assessments and implement sensible and effective measures to reduce the risk of COVID-19 transmission at Spirit Studios.

We all have a responsibility to follow the guidance outlined in this document to minimise the risk to health of all staff, students and visitors at Spirit Studios.

If multiple diagnoses of COVID-19 occur within the Spirit Studios community, such as a large-scale outbreak, restrictions may have to be implemented to control that outbreak. Such restrictions could include a reduction in face-to-face learning and facility access. It should be noted that such measures will only be taken in exceptional circumstances as a last resort and in agreement with Directors of Public Health. Any measures will be kept to the shortest amount of time possible.

COVID-19 symptoms

The [NHS states the main COVID-19 symptoms](#) are:

- **a high temperature** - this means you feel hot to touch on your chest or back
- **a new, continuous cough** - this means coughing a lot for more than an hour, or 3 or more coughing episodes in 24 hours (if you usually have a cough, it may be worse than usual)
- **a loss or change to your sense of smell or taste** - this means you've noticed you cannot smell or taste anything, or things smell or taste difference to normal
- **shortness of breath**
- **feeling tired or exhausted**
- **an aching body**

- **a headache**
- **a sore throat**
- **a blocked or runny nose**
- **loss of appetite**
- **diarrhoea**
- **feeling sick or being sick**

The symptoms are very similar to symptoms of other illnesses, such as colds and flu.

COVID-19 vaccination

We strongly encourage everyone who is eligible to take up the offer of both doses of a COVID-19 vaccine, and any subsequent booster doses. The vaccines are safe and effective.

If you haven't already, please register with a local GP. Those who are registered with a GP will receive an invitation to be vaccinated. You can then book your appointment at a vaccination site, a community pharmacy, some GP run sites and some hospitals through the [national booking service](#) or by calling 119.

Face coverings

Face coverings are no longer advised for students, staff and visitors in teaching settings or communal areas.

We ask all visitors to be in possession of a face covering. There may be instances where wearing a face covering feels right, or other individuals in the same room as you feel more comfortable with all parties wearing a face covering. We ask you to please be mindful of others in this regard.

Face coverings should fit securely around the face to cover the nose and mouth and be made with a breathable material capable of filtering airborne particles.

Do not dispose of any disposable masks in the general bins at Spirit Studios. If you use disposable masks, please safely dispose of them away from the Spirit Studios premises.

Hand washing

One of the most effective ways in reducing the spread of COVID-19 is regular and thorough washing of hands. Please wash your hands immediately upon arrival at Spirit Studios, prior to entering any rooms and prior to signing out equipment. Hand sanitiser dispensers are located in reception and throughout the building. Signs are located in each toilet and next to hand sanitising stations showing the recommended approach to washing hands thoroughly.

Some individuals may have sensitive skin which is irritated by the alcohol-based hand sanitiser that we use. Please use soap and warm water instead. There may also be effective alternatives that you can purchase too. If in doubt, speak to your GP.

Try to reduce touching your face with your hands. Always carry tissues and use them to catch a cough or sneeze. Dispose of your tissue and then wash your hands as quickly as possible. Remember: Catch it, bin it, kill it.

What do I do if I have symptoms or test positive for COVID-19

There is no longer a legal requirement for people with COVID-19 to self-isolate, however if you have any of the main symptoms of COVID-19 or a positive test result, the public health advice is to stay at home and avoid contact with other people.

You should follow the public health advice on [people with symptoms of a respiratory infection including COVID-19](#).

What do I do if I've been identified as a close contact of a positive case?

A contact is a person who has been close to someone who has tested positive for COVID-19. A person can be a contact any time from 2 days before you developed symptoms (or, if you did not have any symptoms, from 2 days before the date your positive test was taken), and up to 10 days after, as this is when you can pass the infection on to others. This includes:

- Face-to-face contact including being coughed on or having a face-to-face conversation within one metre of you
- They have been within one metre of you for one minute or longer without face-to-face contact
- They have been within two metres of you for more than 15 minutes (either as a one-off contact, or added up together over one day)

If you've been identified as a close contact of a positive case, you should follow the public health advice on [People with COVID-19 and their contacts](#).

What we're doing to keep you safe at Spirit Studios

Please see our [COVID-19 control measures](#) document to see the measures we've implemented to reduce the risk of COVID-19 at Spirit Studios.