

Pakachoag Music School Summer Music & Movement Sampler Classes and COVID-19

Originally Draft 3/19/21

Updated 3/26/21

One year forward from when we moved Music Together classes online, we are finally preparing for some level of in-person activity as soon as the situation permits, taking into consideration health needs of both teachers and families. Decisions for in-person are also subject to any requirements of the partner organizations who provide space for Music Together and Rhythm Kids classes.

We have revised our health policy using guidance from the CDC about best practices to prevent the spread of all germs and ensure your continued health and well-being.

2021 Health Policy for Summer Music & Movement Sampler Classes with Pakachoag

We ask for your help in keeping all the members of our musical community healthy by following these protocols. Our classes may have immune-compromised individuals (including pregnant women) who may be more susceptible to viral respiratory infections, including influenza and COVID-19, so your vigilance and adherence to this health policy is extremely important. Our teachers reserve the right to send a family home from class if they feel these sickness protocols are not being followed.

While some participants and teachers may have completed the vaccination process, we will operate under the assumption that some members of our music classes and community may not yet be vaccinated.

How we operate and this policy is subject to update as we stay abreast of state and national health recommendations related to COVID-19, vaccinations, and COVID-19 variants.

Guidelines for Outdoor, In-person Classes

- Outdoor classes will take place in large, open areas to allow for adequate social distancing and ventilation.
- There will be a maximum of 8 families per class, not exceeding two adults per family group.
- Each family will be assigned a 6-foot radius “fish bowl” participation pod in a “U” shape around the teacher. We recommend bringing a family blanket to designate this space.
- Please maintain a distance of 6 to 9 feet from other families and the teacher at all times. If a child wanders toward others, grownups can quickly swim (maybe even “glub-glub”ing in their ear) and scoop up their child, bringing them back to their “fish bowls” for more musical fun. We know that it’s not developmentally appropriate to expect children to stay in one place/not wander during class; *however, it’s essential that we take extra care to keep one another safe during this time.*
- In keeping with state and local mandates, children over the age of 2 and adults are required to wear masks at arrival, during class, and through departure. The mandate allows for an exception for residents who cannot wear a face-covering due to a medical or disabling condition. *All unmasked individuals must remain on their “fish bowl” participation pod at all times.*
- Families will bring their own instruments and props to each class. The teacher will let families know in advance what home items might make a good substitute for actual instruments. Gathering items before the first class is required; and keeping them in a bag or box to have handy each week is essential for class participation.
- Restrooms may not be available – plan ahead.

Additional Family Health Protocols

- You must bring their own hand sanitizer and sanitization wipes. We ask that all adults and children wash or sanitize their hands before and after class.
- Cover your mouth and nose with a tissue when you cough or sneeze or use the inside of your elbow. Please take used tissues home with you. If coughing or sneezing, please immediately clean your hands with a hand sanitizer that contains at least 60% alcohol.
- Please plan to come hydrated and bring your own water bottles.
- Wave instead of shaking hands or hugging.

Illness Policy

- If you or your child is sick, **please stay home** until you are fully recovered. If you or your child has had a fever, you must be fever-free for at least 24 hours (without assistance of fever-reducing medication) before returning to class.
- If you or your child becomes ill with something contagious after you were in class, please email info@pakmusic.org to let us know right away.

Inclement Weather Policy & Makeups

Any class that is not held outdoors due to inclement weather will be observed virtually/remotely at the same start time. The School and teacher will determine if an outdoor space is unfit due to weather on the morning of the class. Transfers to virtual session will be posted on the website two hours before class start: www.pakmusic.org/events/weather.

One missed outdoor in-person class may only be made up in a virtual class on another day. Availability for makeup classes is limited and not guaranteed. Please check with chris@pakmusic.org or julie@pakmusic.org for availability.

Questions?

Please reach out to Chris Wychorski, Registrar if you have questions regarding schedules and make-ups. chris@pakmusic.org.

If you have questions regarding this policy, please email Sarah Smongeski, Executive Director. sarah@pakmusic.org.

If you have questions about anything related to your time in class, please speak with your teacher or email our Program Director Kristjon Imperio at kristjon@pakmusic.org.