

NEW ENGLAND YOUTH THEATRE

HEALTH & SAFETY GUIDELINES FALL - 2021

Updated: 9/29/21

We are closely following COVID-19, especially the status of the Delta Variant, and may adjust our guidelines as the situation changes.

1. GENERAL GUIDELINES FOR BEING ON CAMPUS

- Practice physical distancing (3 feet between all individuals when masked indoors, 6 feet outdoors when unmasked)
- Wear facial coverings (everyone over the age of 2)*
- Use hand sanitizer upon entering and exiting the building
- If Experiencing [Symptoms of COVID](#), please stay home (more below)

[*Following the CDC's recommendation for schools, we are requiring universal masking indoors, for students & staff, regardless of vaccination status.](#)

2. WHAT WE WILL DO AND PROVIDE

- Provide hand sanitizing stations with 60%+ alcohol solution inside the entrance to the theater
- Ensure there is adequate soap and paper towels in each bathroom
- Limit group sizes according to room capacities
- Hold gatherings outside whenever possible
- Prop open the doors to the building when we expect periods of ingress and Egress
- Disinfect surfaces within the theater once a day (per CDC's recommendation for schools)

3. WAYS YOU CAN HELP

- Stay home if:
 - You are experiencing any [symptoms of COVID-19](#) (see below)
 - Are currently in quarantine due to close contact with an individual with COVID-19, or in isolation due to positive testing for COVID-19 (visit the CDC website for the most current list of symptoms)
- Communicate with NEYT if you or anyone in your household has been diagnosed with COVID-19
- Reduce your potential exposure to the coronavirus. (The greater risks you take, the more you put our community at risk!).

- During the period of NEYT participation, refrain from travel to areas outside our region that require quarantine. (For more information visit Vermont.gov)
- Please respect physical distancing and mask guidelines while dropping off and picking up.
- Only participants in the program are permitted on-campus. No Visitors.
- Bring a clean mask to every rehearsal.
- Bring your own snack and water bottle -- no sharing of water or snacks!
- Bring your positive energy!

4. GUIDELINES FOR IN-PERSON PROGRAMS

- The majority of in-person workshops & rehearsals will be held outdoors with physical distance, following the Vermont State guidelines for physical activity.
- Facial coverings may only be removed during outdoor physical activities where children and staff can maintain physical distance (over 6 feet) and have ready access to put them back as needed *when activity stops*. At all other times, participants and staff must be masked.
- Dance without masks will be done outside under the tent in compliance with Vermont State Guidelines.
- NEYT provides sanitizer at all locations to use after touching masks.
- Sharing of props will be as limited as possible. All props are disinfected between each rehearsal.
- Vocal work will follow the industry standards and remain in compliance with State Guidelines.

5. WHAT TO DO IN CASE OF SYMPTOMS/ILLNESS

(The following guidelines are drawn from the State of Vermont's Department of Health)

What happens if my child has symptoms of COVID-19?

- If your child has any of the COVID-19 symptoms listed below, keep them home and call the NEYT office to report their absence
- If your child has any COVID-19 symptoms while at NEYT, you will be called to come pick up your child as soon as possible.

When does my child need a COVID-19 test?

- Here are the current pediatric symptoms associated with COVID-19:

Fever (100.4 F or higher)	Nausea
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Cough	Vomiting
Shortness of breath	Diarrhea
Sore throat	Fatigue
Runny nose	Muscle aches
Loss of taste or smell	Headache

- If your child has any COVID-19 symptoms for longer than 24 hours, they should obtain a COVID-19 PCR test.
- Consider having your child tested earlier than 24 hours if they have a fever, cough, runny nose, headache, or loss of taste or smell. These are symptoms commonly experienced by children testing positive for COVID-19 in Vermont. Please consult with your child's healthcare provider if you need assistance deciding if your child needs an earlier test.
- If your child experiences allergy symptoms that are on the list above, COVID-19 PCR tests are recommended during this time of increased circulation of the COVID-19 virus.

When can my child return to NEYT?

- If your child has illness symptoms for less than 24 hours, they can return to NEYT after it has been 24 hours or more since illness symptoms have resolved.
- If your child has symptoms of COVID-19 and had a COVID-19 test (a "rapid" test is acceptable):
 - They must quarantine until they have received results of the test.
 - If the test results are NEGATIVE, they can return to NEYT after:
 - It has been 24 hours or more of no fever without the use of fever-reducing medicine AND
 - other symptoms have improved.
 - If the test results are POSITIVE, they can return to NEYT after:
 - It has been 24 hours or more of no fever without the use of fever-reducing medicine, AND
 - Other symptoms have improved, AND
 - 10 days or more have passed since any symptoms first appeared.

- If your child has symptoms of COVID-19 (listed above) lasting longer than 24 hours and did not have a COVID-19 test but an alternative diagnosis was made by health care provider, they can return to NEYT after:
 - It has been 24 hours or more of no fever without the use of fever-reducing medicine, AND
 - Other symptoms have improved.
- If your child has symptoms of COVID-19 (listed above) lasting longer than 24 hours and did not have a COVID-19 test and no alternative diagnosis was made, they may return to NEYT after:
 - It has been at least 24 hours or more of no fever without the use of fever-reducing medicine, AND
 - Other symptoms have improved, AND
 - At least 10 days have passed since any symptoms appeared.