



England supplement

Music Unlocked

With the return to the three-tier system from 2nd December 2020, the guidance for music in schools returns more or less to the situation at the very beginning of November.

You can:

- Teach creative subjects as part of a broad and balanced curriculum
- Sing in schools in whole-class groups
- Play any instrument or any combination of instruments in whole-class groups
- Make music in extra-curricular “small and consistent” groups of up to 15 pupils
 - and include more than one extra-curricular group in the same activity and the same space
- Welcome visiting teachers into schools (and they can visit more than one school per day)
- Allow visiting teachers to teach in different bubbles and extra-curricular groups
- Perform to a live audience **only if you are in tier 1 or tier 2**

You cannot:

- Resume “large groups” like choirs and bands (but see above re: “small and consistent” groups)
- Perform to a live audience **only if you are in tier 3**

We recommend:

- Social distancing as far as reasonably possible, even within bubbles, for singing and playing wind-blown instruments but note that there is no need for additional distancing for instruments like drums, guitars and strings that do not raise aerosol above background levels
- That adults distance both from each other and from pupils as much as possible, and that visiting teachers maintain minimum 2m distancing at all times
- Bearing in mind that the adults in the room will usually be the most vulnerable to Covid-19

Guidance:

Avoid printing or e-mailing guidance documents, as the latest versions are always online.

Follow the guidance that most closely matches the spirit and intention of what you are doing, as trying to comply with more than one guidance document may be impossible.

Music Mark: [Music Unlocked](#)

DfE: [Guidance for full opening: schools](#) or [Guidance for full opening: special schools](#)

DfE: [Out of School Settings \(OOSS\) guidance](#) (this will apply to your extra-curricular activity)

DCMS: [Performing arts guidance](#) (referred to in the schools’ guidance but mostly not applicable)

PHE: [Suggested principles of safer singing](#) (for information: not aimed at children’s activity)

Cabinet Office: [Guidance for the Christmas period](#)

Making Music: [Can my group get back to in-person activities?](#) (scroll to bottom and click through)