



England Supplement

Music Unlocked - 10 May 2021 – Roadmap Step 3

The Prime Minister has confirmed that England moves to Step 3 of the Roadmap on Monday 17th May 2021. There is some loosening around group sizes for OOSS activity and performances are permitted to live audiences. Schools should note that the operational guidance says:

Teach an ambitious and broad curriculum in all subjects

Up to and including Key Stage 3, prioritisation within subjects of the most important components for progression is likely to be more effective than removing subjects, which may deprive pupils of the knowledge and cultural capital they need to succeed in life.

In school you can:

- Teach music to whole-class groups in schools; indeed the Department for Education expects schools to teach arts subjects (Schools' operational guidance p.54)
- Welcome peripatetic (visiting) teachers in schools (p.54)
- Allow peripatetic teachers to move between schools without restrictions on the number of settings they visit per day or per week (p.39)
- Allow all staff including peripatetic teachers to move between class bubbles, taking care to maintain distancing especially from other adults (p.54)
- Sing and play any and all combinations of instruments in class, including woodwind and brass (p.55)
 - The guidance recommends playing and singing outdoors if possible and prioritises social distancing and ventilation if playing or singing indoors (p.55)
- Teach individual and small group lessons (p.57)
- Offer educational visits, including residential visits, in the UK only (p.48 and p.67 Annex C)
- Perform to a live audience indoors or outdoors (p.55)

After school you can:

- Run clubs in school for all children, using school staff or outside providers, e.g. Music Education Hub staff (p.50)
 - From 17th May, groups may be of any size, for indoor and outdoor provision but the guidance still recommends maintaining consistent groups over time (p.50)

In out-of-school settings you can:

- Run all out-of-school activities including those that take place indoors and for all children and young people (Protective Measures for Out-of-school settings p.5)
- Groups of any size are permitted indoors or out but if occupancy levels, distancing and ventilation are unfavourable, groups should still be no more than 15 and groups not permitted to mingle (p.10)
- Sing and play any and all combinations of instruments in out-of-school activities, including woodwind and brass (p.28)
- The guidance prioritises social distancing (2m) and ventilation for higher aerosol activities
- Run educational day visits (p.29)
- Run residential visits, **however** the rule of six people or two households in a group (including staff members) applies for OOSS activity (p.30)

You can also:

- Teach in private homes – the tutor’s or the student’s (Schools’ operational guidance p.57)

You cannot:

- Play woodwind or brass instruments, or sing in “larger groups”, which we understand in schools to mean larger than a class bubble, unless distancing, ventilation and other mitigations can be maintained (Schools’ operational guidance p.55)
- Use physical correction or allow contact between pupils, as either would compromise social distancing (pp.54 & 657)

We recommend:

- Observing social distancing meticulously for peripatetic staff, both from school staff and pupils
- Distancing as much as practicably possible for singing and playing blown instruments in class bubbles (although this may be relaxed for recorders and ocarinas, as they do not require significant volumes of air)
- Issuing books and copies of music to individual students for their exclusive use
- Considering masks with slits for playing through and bell covers for wind and brass players (as per the [Colorado research](#)), especially for instrumental lessons in small practice rooms

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.

Covid-19 Response – Spring 2021

Presented to Parliament by the Prime Minister: [Roadmap out of lockdown](#)

Schools and education

Music Mark: [Music Unlocked](#)

DfE: [Schools coronavirus \(Covid-19\) operational guidance](#) (updated 10th May)

DfE: [Out of School Settings \(OOSS\) guidance](#) (updated 10th May)

Adult groups:

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

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)