Instrumental Music Guidelines

Elementary and Secondary Schools



The following guidelines are provided to assist school administrators in planning for the safe delivery of instrumental music during the Reopening of Schools for the 2020-2021 school year and are based on the Ministry of Education "Guide to Reopening Ontario's Schools". Additional refer to the Ontario Music Educators' Association resource for suggestions on teaching music in line with current public health recommendations.). Principals and Vice-principals should consider the following guidelines in planning for the unique needs of each school community:

Curriculum Expectations

- Most overall expectations for music can be met without the use of instruments in both the elementary and secondary arts curriculum.
- Some experiential learning expectations (singing, playing wind/brass instrument) may require alternate delivery (remote learning).

Instrument Use

- Non-wind instruments are approved for student use. Shared instruments must be thoroughly cleaned and sanitized both before and after use.
- Wind instruments (any instrument with a mouth piece) are not to be used at this time.

Additional Guidelines

- Masks must be worn by all students in Grades 4 through 12 while indoors, including during music classes. Students in Grades K-3 are encouraged to wear face covering at all times.
- No performances for students outside of a class/cohort are permitted.
- Students must wash or sanitize hands before participating in music class.
- Lower risk creative performance opportunities should be considered (no singing or wind instruments).