



NATIONAL ACADEMY
OF DRAMATIC ART



Trinity College Dublin
Coláiste na Tríonóide, Baile Átha Cliath
The University of Dublin

The Lir Academy COVID-19

Resumption of Activity Masterplan

Executive Summary

INTRODUCTION:

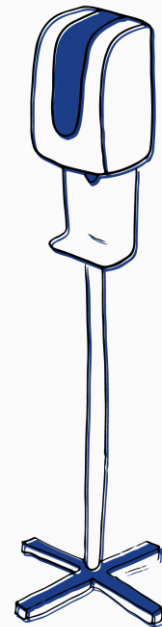
This executive summary outlines the main points of [The Lir Academy COVID-19 Resumption of Activity Masterplan](#) under six key sections.

SECTION 1: *Preparing for Reopening*

Health and Hygiene Measures

A number of health and hygiene measures have been put into place in preparation for reopening including:

- ✔ Clear and visible signage throughout the building.
- ✔ Free-standing sanitizing stations.
- ✔ Supervising air flow in line with COVID-19 guidelines.
- ✔ Creating a [designated isolation room](#) to deal with any suspected cases of COVID-19.
- ✔ Induction training for staff and students in the form of videos, written material and in-person training.
- ✔ Updating cleaning arrangements in accordance with guidelines issued by the HSE and the Department of Health.



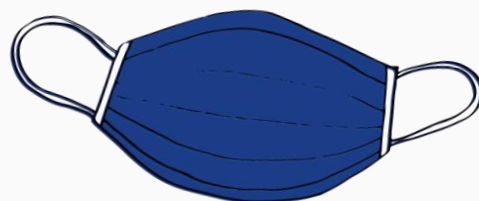
General COVID-19 Protocols

Standard COVID-19 protocols have been implemented in The Lir Academy according to advice from health authorities.

- ✔ Wipes and sanitizer will be provided for disinfection of touchpoints and surfaces.
- ✔ Crowd management will be implemented through set entrance and exit points, set traffic flow, assigned arrival times for shows, sign-in systems and building capacity reduction. More details can

be found in the [Preparing for Reopening](#) section of the Masterplan.

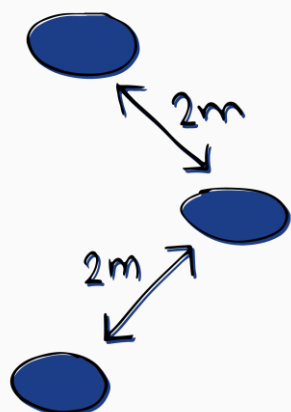
- ✔ Masks will be compulsory in communal areas. Individual Risk Assessments will determine the appropriate PPE for each class and activity.
- ✔ A daily sign-in system will be implemented to facilitate contact tracing.



The standard 2 metre social distance will be observed where possible and in transition spaces. Where the 2 metre distance cannot be observed due to the nature of the task, masks and possibly additional PPE will be used.

Podding

The Lir Academy will introduce a comprehensive system of podding across activities. 'Podding' refers to the concept of demarcation and isolation of special-purpose working groups within the Lir Academy production and teaching process. Podding will be implemented across each class/group and production department as detailed [here](#).



Reducing Building Capacity and Acquiring Additional Spaces

The building capacity has been reduced and new spaces acquired to facilitate social distancing, as outlined in the [Reducing Building Capacity](#) chapter of the Masterplan.

Building Modifications

Each Lir Academy space will be used following the health and hygiene guidelines outlined above. As a result, new protocols around the use of each space have been implemented as detailed in [Chapter Four](#) of the Masterplan.

SECTION 2: *Public Access and External Use of The Building*

Members of the Public and Access to Productions

A public access plan containing the health and safety measures that need to be followed by members of the public can be found [here](#). Patrons and short course participants will be sent a checklist at the time of booking a show or short course.

Box Office and Public Spaces

- ✔ A queueing system will be implemented for the reception/box office area, abiding by the 2m distance regulation.
- ✔ The box office will not accept any cash. A card payment system will be implemented and contactless payment will be encouraged.
- ✔ Clear access and exit routes to venues, studios and toilets will be indicated through clear and visible signage. Queueing and use of the bathrooms will take place according to social distance regulations.



Visitors and Suppliers

All visitors and suppliers will need to adhere to the social distancing, crowd control and sign-in protocols outlined above. Regular suppliers will be updated on the COVID-19 policies and procedures they need to follow when accessing The Lir Academy and will have to agree to abide by them in order to use the building.

SECTION 3: *Ensuring the Health and Safety of Staff and Students*

The COVID-19 Safety Committee

A COVID-19 Safety Committee with clearly defined roles will ensure the full implementation of the Masterplan and deal with any issues concerning the safe use of the building. A system of protective disclosure will be put into place to deal with any concerns raised by staff and students regarding their safety. A more detailed description of the Safety Committee's structure and procedures can be found [here](#).

Staff/Working Protocols

- ✔ Staff will be distributed to individual offices, share only offices where a 2 metre social distance can be observed, or alternate working in the office and working from home to accommodate the single-use of space.
- ✔ Staff members will complete a back-to-work declaration 3 days in advance of returning and a system is in place for signing-in on a daily basis,
- ✔ Persons returning to Ireland must refer to HSE advice.
- ✔ Should lock-down be re-established, all Lir Academy activities will move online immediately.



Mental Health Support

A list of mental health supports available via Trinity College Dublin can be found [here](#).



Staff Training and First Aid Training

Staff will receive training on the new COVID-19 protocols. These protocols will also be included in the first aid training.

Personal Responsibility

Staff and students will have personal responsibility for adhering to the health and safety procedures implemented in the building. A checklist of personal responsibility for staff and students can be found [here](#).

SECTION 4: *Teaching, Rehearsal and Production Protocols*

A detailed account of general teaching protocols, production protocols, the complex interactions between pods during productions and a production recovery plan can be found in [the Masterplan](#).

SECTION 5: *Handling and Responding to a Suspected or Confirmed Case of COVID-19*

In case of a suspected or confirmed case of COVID-19:

- ✔ Staff and students will be given clear guidelines on what to do in the event of presenting symptoms.
- ✔ If a suspected case is identified in the building the [Isolation Room procedures](#) will be followed.
- ✔ The Lir Academy has outlined clear guidelines on how to deal with cases, as detailed [here](#).
- ✔ The Lir Academy will work with the HSE to conduct contact tracing and monitor suspected or confirmed cases as appropriate.



The Lir Academy has agreed on further protocols to protect vulnerable staff and students in higher-risk categories as defined by the [HSE](#).

- ✔ Their time spent in the building will be reduced through online classes and meetings, where possible.
- ✔ If working/studying from home is not possible, the safest option will be considered for their on-site roles (e.g: backstage roles that enable them to easily stay 2m away from others).
- ✔ The vulnerable individual will be consulted in the measures taken for their safety at any time and be part of assessing whether their role presents an acceptable level of risk.

SECTION 6: *Checklists and Case Studies*

A series of checklists and case studies on how The Lir Academy will deal with the new regulations and respond to emergency scenarios have been included in the Masterplan [here](#).

APPENDIX

An appendix consisting of graphics, maps and templates is included in the [*Masterplan*](#).