



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

The Lir Academy COVID-19 Masterplan 2022-23

COVID-19 Protocol for Term Recommencing September 26th, 2022

This document is a revised version of the original The Lir Academy COVID-19 Resumption of Activity Masterplan developed by The Lir's Covid Committee in 2020 and updated in response to ongoing changes to protocols throughout 2020 and 2021. You can see that version of the masterplan [at this link](#).

As we welcome our students back to the academic year 2022-23, this document is a revised version of the extensive safety precautions that we had in place last year. All restrictions have been eased, but care and attention will still be required to ensure that safety is upheld. We will continue to review practices on an ongoing basis in response to guidance from the relevant authorities.

We look forward to the year ahead and us all working together again more closely.

Chapters

Section One - The Building

- 1) Health and Hygiene Measures
- 2) General COVID-19 Protocols

Section Two - Ensuring Staff and Student Safety

- 3) Mental Health Support
- 4) Personal Responsibility – Students and Staff

Section Four - Handling and Responding to a Suspected or Confirmed Case of COVID-19

- 5) Protocols for a Suspected or Confirmed Case of Infection

SECTION ONE - THE BUILDING

1) Health and Hygiene Measures

1.1. Signage

The key to keeping the academy safe during the current phase of the country's response to Covid-19 is strong communication of key messages. Clear and visible signage will remain in designated areas to ensure staff, students and patrons remain aware of their personal responsibilities in preventing the spread of Covid-19.

1.2. Sanitising Stations

Sanitising stations will remain in place throughout the academy for the continued use of everyone who accesses the building.

1.3. Heating and Ventilation

Ventilation will continue to be maintained.

The existing heating and ventilation systems are in line with COVID-19 guidelines and The Lir Academy will maintain ongoing communications with the Trinity College Dublin Estates and Facilities department to ensure best practice in terms of air handling, ventilation and the installation of CO₂ monitors where necessary.

2) General COVID-19 Protocols

2.1. Regular Cleaning and Sanitising of Rooms and Surfaces

The Lir Academy will continue to implement the cleaning of work areas at regular intervals throughout the day by staff and students. Cleaning materials will be provided to staff and students to disinfect touch points as necessary.

SECTION TWO - ENSURING STAFF AND STUDENT SAFETY

3) Mental Health Support

Mental health support resources will continue to be provided to members of staff by Inspire Workplaces and to students by Trinity College Dublin.

Additional onsite mental health resources will be provided to students during the 2022-23 academic year, details of which will be communicated to students by the Academic Administrator.

The Lir Academy will keep up to date with the resources available, keep staff and students updated and liaise between the service providers and the staff/students who need to avail of their services.

4) Personal Responsibility – Students and Staff

Personal responsibility will continue to be central to making The Lir Academy a safe space to continue teaching and training activities. Staff and students must continue to observe the health and safety practices detailed in this chapter to ensure a smooth running of all Lir Academy facilities.

4.1. Students

- Students are advised to stay at home if feeling very unwell and follow the advice of the HSE <https://www2.hse.ie/conditions/covid19/symptoms/overview/>
- All students will be required to carry a pocket hand sanitiser at all times, practice good hand hygiene and cough etiquette.
- Hand sanitisers can be refilled at designated stations throughout the building
- Students will take personal responsibility for keeping their workspace clean and sanitised at all times, in the rehearsal room and workshops.
- Students will be asked to observe health and safety rules in their interactions outside of The Lir Academy and in keeping with public health guidance.
- Students who are travelling internationally are expected to follow guidelines from the Irish government in relation to quarantine periods where applicable.

4.2 Staff

- Staff are advised to stay at home if feeling very unwell and follow the advice of the HSE <https://www2.hse.ie/conditions/covid19/symptoms/overview/>

- Staff will be required to carry a pocket hand sanitiser at all times, practice good hand hygiene and cough etiquette.
- Hand sanitisers can be refilled at designated stations throughout The Lir and blue roll will be provided by The Lir.
- Staff will take personal responsibility for keeping their workspace clean and sanitised at all times.
- Staff will be asked to observe health and safety rules in their interactions outside of The Lir Academy and in keeping with public health guidance.
- Staff who are travelling internationally are expected to follow guidelines from the Irish government in relation to quarantine periods where applicable.

Handling and Responding to a Suspected or Confirmed Case of COVID-19

5) Protocols for a Suspected or Confirmed Case of Infection

These are the steps to be followed if someone is a suspected or confirmed case of COVID-19. These steps are informed by government and health authorities' regulations and are subject to change. The section will be updated to reflect the latest government advice related to isolation, testing and sanitising.

If an individual displays COVID-19 symptoms on-site, they will be safely escorted to a designated isolation area by staff where they will wear a mask and get in contact with their GP.

- The COVID-19 response team member will safely assist the suspected case to call the College Health Centre or their GP.
- The COVID-19 response team member will notify management and arrange transport home or hospital for medical assessment. Public transport will be avoided.
- If a confirmed case is identified at The Lir Academy, they are required to self-isolate at home for seven days as per public health guidelines.

<https://www2.hse.ie/conditions/covid19/testing/positive-result/>