



# Music Education Pandemic Fact Sheet



In response to the impact of COVID-19, music educators must work with administrators to ensure awareness of research and best practices relating to safe music instruction. The National Association for Music Education (NAfME) is committed to supporting our music educators with up-to-date information to help advocate for the safe return of in-person music making in our schools.

## International Performing Arts Aerosol Research Study

- Mitigation strategies such as bell covers, absorption pads for spit valve contents, proper ventilation, and/or “air purifiers” is a result of the International Performing Arts Aerosol Research Study and Guidelines. The results of this published study (August 2021) are linked below.
  - [Measurements and Simulations of Aerosol Released while Singing and Playing Wind Instruments](#)

## CDC Recommendations for Music and Performing Arts

- The Centers for Disease Control and Prevention (CDC) offers general strategies for the return of music education and instruction that align with the mitigation strategies offered by the Performing Arts Aerosol Research Study. Along with the strategies listed in the above link, the CDC “[emphasizes implementing layered prevention strategies to protect students, teachers, staff, visitors, and other members of their households and support in-person learning.](#)”

## General Music/Elementary Guidance

- When considering strategies for elementary students, please view the [NAfME General Music Council webinar \(8/31/21\)](#) and the following resources:
  - [NAfME and NHFS Phase III Guidelines: General Music Situations](#)
  - [NAfME and NHFS Suggestions from General Music Teacher for Restarting or Continuing Face-to-Face Instruction](#)

## Delta Variant and Music Making

- The vehicle in which the virus is spread is through aerosol particles. It is important to note that particles from the Delta variant are similar in size to the other COVID-19 variants. Therefore, in addition to the CDC’s recommendations to combat transmission, layered strategies of prevention included in the Performing Arts Aerosol Study effectively mitigate the spread of COVID-19 variants. For in-person music instruction, this includes layered bells covers, absorption pads to collect valve contents, proper ventilation, voice amplifiers for educators, etc.
  - [CDC Delta Variant: What We Know About the Science](#)
  - [CDC Guidance for COVID-19 Prevention in K-12 Schools](#)

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