

Piano Teaching in a Changing Environment – Statement from EPTA UK, 7 January 2021

Following the announcement of strict lockdown measures in all parts of the UK, schools are open for in-person learning for children of key workers and vulnerable children. Remote learning is provided for all other students. Rules about face-to-face tuition in private homes have also changed:

In **England**, we advise EPTA members suspend all face-to-face tuition and move lessons online where possible until further specific guidance is issued by the Government.

In **Northern Ireland**, rules about face-to-face tuition in private homes are unclear. We advise EPTA members suspend all face-to-face tuition and move lessons online where possible until further specific guidance is issued by the Government.

In **Scotland**, face-to-face tuition in private homes is currently not permitted except on some islands which remain under Level 3 restrictions. We advise EPTA members not residing on the lockdown exempt islands to suspend all face-to-face tuition and move lessons online where possible.

In **Wales**, face-to-face tuition in private homes is currently not permitted unless it is 'reasonably necessary' and there is 'no reasonably practical alternative'. We advise EPTA members suspend face-to-face tuition and move lessons online where possible.

We recommend EPTA members also check other sources of guidance for music teachers and musicians:

- **Incorporated Society of Musicians:** <https://www.ism.org/advice/easing-of-lockdown-restrictions>
- **Music Mark:** <https://www.musicmark.org.uk/resources/music-unlocked-guidance-for-schools-and-music-providers/>
- **Musicians' Union:** <https://www.musiciansunion.org.uk/Home/Advice/covid-19/music-teaching>

Up-to-date information is available from the UK governments:

- **England:** www.gov.uk/coronavirus
- **Northern Ireland:** www.nidirect.gov.uk/campaigns/coronavirus-covid-19
- **Scotland:** www.gov.scot/coronavirus-covid-19/
- **Wales:** www.gov.wales/coronavirus

If you require further legal advice, EPTA UK members can contact our legal helpline on **01384 887575**.

Disclaimer: EPTA UK is a charity and association, supporting and inspiring piano teachers and their pupils. EPTA UK can offer interpretive guidance but can never enforce legal rules, regulations or policies on our members, whether they be institutions, corporations, companies or self-employees who work as individuals and our guidance does not constitute legal advice. Members should consult the relevant legislation and are responsible for making informed decisions about their own teaching.