

Northwest Girlchoir is dedicated to the physical, mental, and emotional health of our choristers and their families. We pledge to monitor and follow local, State and national public health policies. Parents sign a COVID-19 agreement in the annual registration form, to accept/acknowledge the risk associated with group activity.

Note: Northwest Girlchoir's COVID-19 policies may change as public health policies change.

Health Policies

- All choristers, staff, volunteers, and parents entering the building are highly encouraged to be up to date on COVID-19 vaccines.
- Parents are responsible for monitoring chorister's health, and keeping their chorister home – and notifying Northwest Girlchoir – if their choristers is experiencing COVID-19 symptoms.
- If we are notified of a suspected or confirmed case of COVID-19, we will follow protocols outlined below.

Facility/Class Procedures

- Well-fitting masks are highly recommended for choristers in the building and at rehearsal. Extra masks will be available in the choir office.
- Parents are welcome to wait in the building during rehearsal, and are highly encouraged to wear a mask. Available spaces are the Family Chapel and the lobby.
- We will practice social distancing in each rehearsal room, with distance depending on number of choristers and size of room.
- Choristers are encouraged to use hand sanitizer or wash hands upon arrival.
- Rehearsal room windows and doors may be open for airflow, so choristers should dress for the weather. To further improve ventilation, we will be using portable HEPA air purifiers in rehearsal rooms.

Concert Procedures

- Northwest Girlchoir will follow the policies of our concert venues and communicate those policies to families and audience members as far in advance as possible of each tech rehearsal and concert.
- Current policies include recommended vaccination and masking for both performers and audience.
- For the December 11 concerts at Town Hall, we will require masks for audience members so we can safely sing along together to holiday favorites.

If your chorister or anyone in your household has a suspected or confirmed case of COVID-19, contact Choir Administrator Ann Selznick ASAP at 206-527-2900 or info@northwestgirlchoir.org.

Close Contact with a Suspected Case

If a chorister or staff member believes they have been in **close contact** with a person suspected of having COVID-19, they should monitor their health for signs of fever, cough, shortness of breath or difficulty breathing, sore throat, chills, headache, loss of taste or smell, muscle or body aches, nausea/vomiting/diarrhea, congestion/runny nose (not related to seasonal allergies) and unusual fatigue.

“Close contact” means being closer than six feet from an infected person for at least 15 minutes, during a timespan between 48 hours before they started showing symptoms and the time the infected person is isolated (or, for individuals with no symptoms, between 48 hours before the date the positive test was collected and the time the infected person is isolated). Close contact also happens if someone with COVID-19 coughs on you, kisses you, shares utensils with you, or you have contact with their body fluids.

Confirmed Case

In the case of a “confirmed” case of COVID-19, we will:

- Notify the Public Health Seattle & King County and consult with them regarding next steps.
- Notify all chorister families and staff.
- Instruct the person with confirmed COVID-19 to stay home for 5 days after their positive test, then return to choir after a negative antigen test.
- Instruct those who had close contact with the person (see above) to stay home if they have symptoms.

Return Policy for a Fully Vaccinated Person w/ Suspected or Confirmed Case of COVID-19

If a fully vaccinated person was in close contact with someone suspected or confirmed as having COVID-19, they do not need to stay home unless they are having symptoms. Whether or not you develop symptoms, get tested at least 5 days after you last had close contact with someone with COVID-19. Watch for symptoms until 10 days after you last had close contact with someone with COVID-19.

- If a person tests positive for COVID-19, they may return to choir 5 days after the positive result if they show a negative antigen test, and if they **wear a mask** until symptoms have subsided.
- If a person has symptoms but tests negative for COVID-19, they may return to choir 24 hours after fever has resolved (without the use of fever-reducing medication) AND symptoms have improved.
- If the person has one or more symptoms and had no test, they can return to choirs 10 days after symptoms started AND at least 24 hours after fever resolved (without the use of fever-reducing medication) AND symptoms have improved.