



Ms Kay Nugent  
[klub-muzik@hotmail.com](mailto:klub-muzik@hotmail.com)

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Our Ref – CHG-MO-02233-2021

Dear Ms Nugent,

I refer to your recent correspondence in relation to the reopening of your music school Klub Muzik and I thank you for contacting the Minister on this matter. It is clear from your email how passionate you are about teaching and the Minister would like to commend you on all the measures you have already undertaken to ensure the safe return of your students to your school.

Unfortunately no indoor music/singing classes are permitted to take place at present. The number of people allowed to gather in different scenarios is based on experience and reviews of international practice and the judgment of public health experts. It seeks to balance the risks of different types of gatherings against the desire to allow normal activities to proceed in so far as possible. The restrictions decided upon and put in place by the Government are based on the advice received by NPHE.

Since the 10<sup>th</sup> of May the following are permitted

- Reopening of galleries, museums and other cultural attractions where people are non-stationary (for general admittance, not indoor events)
- Small organised outdoor gatherings with a maximum attendance of 15 people
- Outdoor training for adults can recommence, in pods of a maximum of 15 people
- Inter-county travel can resume

This means that arts and culture activities other than dance, such as music/singing can also take place outside in pods of 15 for both adults and children since the 10<sup>th</sup> of May.

In July, subject to the public health situation at the time, it is hoped that there will be a further easing of restrictions. All new announcements will be published on the Gov.ie website which can be found at [gov.ie - Your guide to the changes - Resilience and Recovery: The Path Ahead \(www.gov.ie\)](https://www.gov.ie/en/publications/2021-06-16-your-guide-to-the-changes-resilience-and-recovery-the-path-ahead/).

The Arts Council has guidance titled *COVID-19 Reopening Guidelines for Young People, Children and Education* which you might find useful. This will be updated regularly and the guidelines can be found at <http://www.artscouncil.ie/covid-19/government-guidelines/> .

The Minister understands how difficult this situation is for everybody and it is hoped that in the coming weeks and months society will begin to return to normal, albeit at a very slow pace. Should you require any further clarification on guidelines then please feel free to contact me again or alternatively you can email the arts unit directly at [artsunit@tcagsm.gov.ie](mailto:artsunit@tcagsm.gov.ie). The arts unit team will be happy to answer any queries you may have in the future.

Yours sincerely,



Helen Francis  
Private Secretary