



## Marsden Jazz Festival Covid Policy

Welcome to Marsden Jazz Festival!

We're committed to creating a safe and inspiring festival for all. When you're at our festival, be it as an artist, audience member, contractor, volunteer or member of staff, we expect you to follow our Covid Policy. This way, we aim to ensure that everyone has the same festival experience and knows what to expect.

Our festival will undoubtedly be different this year. It's our first time presenting an outdoor stage on Peel Street, an exhibition instead of gigs in the Mechanics and (yes, sadly) no parade. But we have stayed true to our roots: Jazz in the Yorkshire Pennines. Adapting to Covid, we needed to rethink how we produce our festival, so we created risk assessments, accessibility checks and Covid protocols so that audiences would feel safe attending the festival this year. We are proud of what we have put together and we hope that you'll love it as much as we do.

Here is an overview of our safety measures. If you would like to know more, please contact us. On behalf of the festival team, the volunteers and the village, we thank you in advance for your cooperation. Let's enjoy a weekend of music together safely!

### **What we will do:**

We trained our staff volunteers in our Covid-safety protocol. They are always available to help you.

We will provide hand sanitisers at all venues and regularly clean seats and multi-touch surfaces.

We will provide portable toilets, including accessible toilets, which will be regularly cleaned by a contractor.

If government restrictions are in place we will implement social distancing, one-way systems, safe queuing and staggered arrival where needed.

St Bartholomew's church will be the only seated concert venue. Depending on the level of national restriction at the time of the festival we may have to restrict the number of seats to ensure sufficient social distancing. We may also need to escort you to and from your seat.

We may ask to take your temperature at the door of all our indoor venues. If you present with a temperature higher than 40degrees we reserve the right to refuse entry. We will issue refunds to audience members who cannot enter venues due to Covid-19, Covid symptoms or isolation requirements.

While we prefer and encourage contactless payment, we will also accept cash.

Working with Experience Community, we have increased the accessibility of our festival. Please see [www.marsdenjazzfestival.com/accessibility](http://www.marsdenjazzfestival.com/accessibility) for details and contact us if you need any further information or assistance.

We constantly evaluate how we do things. If you think we can do better, please let us know.

## **What we ask you to do:**

### **Before the festival**

We recommend you buy your tickets in advance. It's the safest and fastest option for you and for us. We do appreciate that not everyone can do this, so we will have a box office at St Bartholomew's Church throughout the weekend

Less is more. Please keep personal belongings to a minimum as we do not have storage spaces.

### **At the festival**

Please think sensibly about your personal space - if an area of the festival is crowded, perhaps think about returning later or find yourself an area away from others.

Please do use the hand sanitizers dotted around the festival.

Masks are still encouraged if you feel comfortable wearing one, although they are no longer mandatory.

Food and drink is not allowed in any of our indoor venues, but there are plenty of restaurants, cafes and bars across Marsden where you can get a sit-down meal. There is also our Street Food Alley which will be selling a range of delicious street food which can be enjoyed al-fresco.

Assistance animals are allowed in all venues, but pets are not. They are however welcomed at all outdoor areas of the festival (we've heard they're great jazz fans too!)

Covid rules can be stressful. We get it, it's the same on our end. Please remember that everyone is here to have a good time and be respectful to your fellow humans. We will not tolerate any kind of abuse, and we will remove those who endanger others from the festival.

### **When you leave**

If you are using a disposable face mask, please dispose of it in a bin or take home with you - let's keep Marsden litter free!

It's been a tough year for everyone. Please consider making a donation to our festival if you are in a position to do so. We will have old-school donation buckets as well as contactless card payment stations on site.

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