

Jan's courses August 2021 Onwards

Covid-related Arrangements

Dear All,

As you know, the structure and setting of the courses I run from my studio are informal and so it has been a little tricky to imagine how I could adapt arrangements to suit the needs of students during the Covid pandemic. However, now that society is opening up again and the number of vaccinations is high, I feel that it is relatively safe to resume operations. I have set out below the type of changes I envisage making, to ensure we are all kept as safe as possible.

1. **No one who is experiencing covid symptoms or has had close contact with anyone experiencing covid symptoms, should attend the course.** I must have your co-operation in this, since I will not be testing attendees.
2. If you are travelling from an area that is experiencing a higher rate of covid than the rest of the country, please wear a face mask when indoors, in order to protect the rest of the group.
3. Social distance of 1 metre will be maintained wherever possible. Whenever this is tricky, for instance when we are close-examining each other's work, face masks will be worn. Other than that, we will keep the room well-ventilated so that face masks need not be worn when you are sitting at your work.
4. Inside the studio, there is a generous supply of hand sanitizer, anti-bacterial spray and rolls of paper towels. It will be your responsibility to use these whenever you feel it is appropriate. There is, inevitably, much sharing of threads and the like, so we will just have to sanitise our hands at regular intervals to cover for this.
5. Much of our work can be done outside and there will be plenty of chair and table outdoors spaces available for you to work away from the group, weather-permitting!
6. After going to the toilet and when entering the studio, hands should be sanitised. This also applies before handling books and before touching other people's work and equipment. The sanitizing of hands is particularly important before eating and drinking.
7. As most of you know, I do not have hot running water at my studio, and have been concerned about serving food and drink. However, I have decided that I will cook and serve refreshments and lunch. But I will be serving the food and drink to you on an individual basis, and there will be no passing of plates between us eg bread and fruit platters. You will have your own designated cup and glass, and the plates and cutlery will be thoroughly cleaned with boiling water between uses.
8. We will eat and take all our breaks in my newly-erected "Tea Tent", which is a large marquee erected out the back of the studio. This is large enough to allow for social distancing and also means that when we are taking our break, the inside studio can be aired.
9. Inevitably, the informality of these events, together with the instinct to move close to each other when excited about a piece of work, will mean that we will struggle, at times, to follow all these rules. But we must just try our best because, otherwise, I will have to give up running the courses.

Please reply to this message by confirming that you are happy with my arrangements and understand that you attend the course at your own risk.

Jan Kilpatrick