**Studio and Darkroom Access Rules-September 11th 2021**

These Studio and Darkroom Access Rules have been established to permit the safe and responsible use of the EPS Studio and Darkroom Facilities now that Scotland has moved out of the COVID-19 levels system, and is now beyond Level 0**.** Whilst most of the restrictions on what you can and cannot do have been lifted, and all places and businesses can open, there are no limits on the numbers who can attend weddings, funerals and places of worship. However, COVID-19 has not gone away, so there are still some rules and things you can do to avoid getting the virus and stop it spreading. These Rules may be amended from time to time without notice depending on the local or national Lockdown status.

**General**

* All people entering the building must provide their details so that, if EPS needs to, EPS can provide information to the "Test & Protect" authorities.  Names, addresses, emails and telephone numbers of all persons entering the building and studio will be stored securely and destroyed after 6 weeks in order to protect data.
* Members and Guests must follow government “Stay at home guidance” and stay away from the Premises if they have any symptoms or believe they have had recent exposure to Covid or notification from Test and Protect.
* Members and Guests may choose to obtain and use the Department of Health and Social Care COVID-19 Self -Test (Rapid Antigen Test) which is a swab test freely available from the NHS to check for transmissible COVID-19. Such tests could be applied before and after any visit to the Premises.
* **All Members and Guests should be encouraged not to physically attend Meetings in the Premises unless they have already been double vaccinated.**
* All Members and Guests should ensure that their Test and Trace App is switched on whilst they are in the Premises.
* Any Member using the premises for whatever reason has to accept that their details may be passed to the Authorities as required.
* The Studio and Darkroom Access Rules and Risk Assessments will be available as PDF’s on the EPS web-site ([http://www.edinburghphotographicsociety.co.uk/wp/](about:blank)).

**Facilities**

* Hygiene measures will be implemented:
  + EPS will provide 4 hand sanitising/cleaning stations – entrance hall, Studio 1, Studio 2 and darkroom.
  + EPS will provide disposable (non latex) gloves and facemasks – people should nevertheless bring their own.
  + Notices about these rules will be sent to all EPS Members and displayed prominently in the building. Indicators will also be displayed to show 1 metre distance on the floor and ‘no entry’ for those areas out of bounds.
  + A check list of cleaning actions for the toilets, studios and entrance hall will be created.
  + All bins will be removed. Visitors will be expected take all garbage home with them.
* Signs and markings will be put up in the building to advise Members of the rules and to indicate 1 metre gaps at all potential entrances, “pinch points” and busy areas.
* Toilets –The Ladies and Gents toilets will be open. The ground floor ladies will be used by Studio 1 users (i.e. the 1st floor studio). The basement ladies toilet will be used by Studio 2 and Darkroom users. Both toilets will only have paper towels available. Signs will be put up requesting the seat is kept down when flushing to avoid any spray into the room or building.
* Kitchen –will be closed. Visitors may bring their own flasks and snacks.

**Notification of Infection**

* If someone advises EPS they have tested positive for COVID-19 and have been in the building within the previous 72 hours EPS will immediately notify Members that the building is closed for a minimum of 72 hours. EPS will also use the visitors’ information to identify everyone who was in the building with the infected person and anyone who entered the building in the following 72 hours. EPS will inform the authorities to enable Test & Protect to contact all visitors

**Studio and Darkroom Bookings**

* EPS has two studios available to Members: Studio 1 is the studio on the first floor and Studio 2 is in the sub-basement. There is one darkroom located in the basement.
* A maximum number of 4 people will be allowed to participate in each studio session (i.e. 1 Model, 1 photographer and 2 others (e.g .chaperone/makeup artist).   As government rules are changed, and EPS studio users get used to the cleaning regime, consideration will be given to increasing the number of people permitted in the studio. If different types of participants attend they will be required to follow the guidance given to them to perform their tasks, use the relevant PPE and ensure all parties involved are happy with the situation.
* Only one EPS Member may use the Darkroom at any one time.
* Be aware that Studio and Darkroom bookings may be cancelled at short notice and the EPS studio user must take this into consideration before hiring Models. The booking system reminds EPS Studio and Darkroom users of the rules and to bring their own supply of hand sanitiser and wipes.
* Studio 1, Studio 2 and the Darkroom will be bookable and all prospective users must be observant and comply with the social distancing requirements that apply to each facility as they are all interrelated.
* Due to the shared space Studio 2 and Darkroom will be considered as one bookable unit in the booking system. The EPS Member may then use either the Studio or Darkroom as they wish.
* Studio 1 or Studio 2/Darkroom are available every day. One member can use Studio 1 or Studio 2/Darkroom each day and there is no time limit to their usage in that 24 hour window. Each member can have 2 future bookings at one time – one for Studio 1 and another for Studio 2/darkroom. Only one booking is allowed per studio per member. At no time, should any member have more than one future booking in the diary for a studio. Members may only book a future session once their previous booking has expired.
* Members using Studio 1 will use the ground floor toilet. Members using Studio 2 or the Darkroom will use the basement ladies toilet. The gents will remain closed.
* EPS studio users who may be in an “at risk” group as defined by the Scottish govt guidelines need to assess whether the provisions are sufficient to mitigate their risks based on their own circumstances, or whether they should cease attendance for the time being.

**Prior to the Studio session**

* Model and Photographer must commit to advising each other of any symptoms arising before, during or after Photoshoot.
* From the Society’s point of view, it's up to the Studio Member to make sure they have taken all the precautions for themselves and their Models and have followed all rules as laid out here and in other relevant EPS documents.

**Prior to the Darkroom session**

From the Society’s point of view, it's up to the Darkroom User to make sure they have taken all the precautions for themselves and have followed all rules as laid out here and in other relevant EPS documents.

**On the day – Entering the building**

* Prior to entering the EPS premises, Members and Models must make sure that;
* they are not currently under quarantine for COVID-19
* they or their Models have not returned from an overseas country that is currently on the UK Foreign Office, or Scottish Government, quarantine list within the previous 14 days
* they have not been diagnosed as having COVID-19 within the previous 14 days
* they are not displaying any of the symptoms of the COVID-19 virus
* they are not living with or in close contact with someone who is currently quarantined or who has tested positive for the virus.
* Members are asked not to arrive early and to leave promptly, therefore minimising the time in the building. The member will need to arrive early enough to clean the studio/darkroom and equipment before use and stay long enough to complete the cleaning after the session completes.

**On the day – using the studio**

* The EPS studio user must clean the studio both **before** and **after** their session (therefore he/she needs to arrive early). Cleaning it before is to protect the Member and their Model from any virus left by the previous occupant and after is to protect the next person in turn. Doing both will ensure any risk is minimised.
* Photographers are asked not to share equipment.
* Based on the amount of time in the studio face coverings for the photographers are mandatory.
* Photographers and Models are asked to
  + use sanitiser, or wash hands with soap and water, on entering and exiting the Studio.
  + wash and/or sanitise their hands regularly.
  + avoid touching mouth, eyes, and nose. Tissues (if used) must be put into the rubbish bag for disposal later that day and then hands washed or sanitised.
  + sanitise their hands before and after they roll down and position any studio paper.
* EPS studio users can bring their own props and material, but they must take them away at the end of the shoot or they will be disposed of.
* Studio triggers must be cleaned before and after each Studio Session.
* The window should be opened (even if just a little) whenever possible for better ventilation. The doors to the Studios can also be opened along with windows/doors close by the studio.
* All Models are required to ensure that no item of personal clothing or costumes used in the photo shoot are touched by the Photographer and that all such items belonging to the Model are removed from the Studio at the end of the Photo shoot.

**On the day – using the Darkroom**

* The EPS Darkroom User must clean the Darkroom both **before** and **after** their session (therefore he/she needs to arrive early). Cleaning it before is to protect the Member from any virus left by the previous occupant and after is to protect the next person in turn. Doing both will ensure any risk is minimised.
* If the darkroom user does not have someone they can advise that they are entering the building they are to contact the Studio Secretary at [djgr33r@gmail.com](mailto:djgr33r@gmail.com) and advise their start and end times. That means at least one person is aware they are in the building in case of accidents or other issues.
* Darkroom users are asked not to share equipment, chemicals or paper.
* Face coverings are mandatory whilst moving around the premises.
* Darkroom users are asked to
  + use sanitiser, or wash hands with soap and water, on entering and exiting the Darkroom.
  + wash and/or sanitise their hands regularly.
  + avoid touching mouth, eyes, and nose. Tissues (if used) must be put into the rubbish bag for disposal later that day and then hands washed or sanitised.
  + sanitise their hands before and after they roll down and position any studio paper.
* Darkroom users can bring their own chemicals, trays and paper, but they must take them away at the end of the session.

**On the day - Cleaning**

* The Studio or Darkroom user must clean the Studio or Darkroom both **before** and **after** their session. Cleaning it before is to protect the Member and their Model from any virus left by the previous occupant and after is to protect the next person in turn. Doing both will ensure any risk is minimised.
* A large container of anti-viral wipes and hand sanitiser will be left outside the Studio and Darkroom.
* The Photographer/Darkroom user will be asked to clean anything that has been touched, or will be touched, during their session. The following points should be noted:-
  + Instructions will be provided to give guidance on cleaning the studio, Darkroom and other areas. For example, cloths should be used on light switches and electrical appliances rather than spray disinfectants, rubberised and glued surfaces can become damaged by use of spray disinfectant too frequently. The EPS studio user and Model must clean everything they touched regardless of it being in these instructions or not.
  + Particular focus must be made on ensuring the following items are cleaned :-
    - Studio lamps and attachments - Care must be taken to not use isopropyl alcohol on LCD screens, but can be used on plastics as long as you use common sense and don't overdo it.  When cleaning with isopropyl alcohol, it should be sprayed onto the cloth rather than directly onto any electronic studio equipment. A gentle touch and no direct spraying onto the lights is critical.
    - General items - pulley system, window latches, switches and door handles, plus all surfaces in the changing room.
    - Triggers must be cleaned before and after each Studio Session.
    - Access points –wipe the banisters and door handles on the way out.
    - Toilets - Clean all items and surfaces (if it's been used).
* Photographers, Darkroom users and Models are advised to wash outer clothes after cleaning duties.

**Afterwards**

* Studio Users are asked to check-in with each other 14 days after the photoshoot to confirm that they are healthy.
* Regular discussions will take place with Members, Trustees, Studio Users, Darkroom Users and Models to see if arrangements are working. It is important people know they can raise concerns.