

Information about Dance School classes



Age guidelines:

Family Dance	2 ½–3 years	
Dance to Your Own Tune 1	3 years	
Dance to Your Own Tune 2	4 years	
Pre Primary	5 years	
Primary	6 years	
Grade 1	7 years	
Grade 2	8 years	
Grade 3 +	9 years with some ballet experience	
Discovering Repertoire Level 2	12 years + (Grade 5+)	
Ballet for Beginners	13–17 years	
Boys Ballet	Level 1: 5–8 years	Level 2: 9–11 years
	Level 3: 12–17 years	Boys Beginners: 9 years+
Creative	4–8 years	
Contemporary	Level 1: 9–12 years	Level 2: 13–17 years
Jazz Juniors	4–7 years	
Jazz	Level 1: 7–10 years	Level 2: 11–17 years
Street Starters	4–8 years	
Street Dance	Level 1: 9–13 years	Level 2: 14–25 years
Song & Dance	Level 1: 7–11 years	Level 2: 12–17 years

Level prerequisites:

Pre Vocational: Grade 3 with Distinction

Classical Ballet with Focus on Pointe Work A: Intermediate levels

Classical Ballet with Focus on Pointe Work B: Advanced levels

Non Syllabus Ballet: Advanced Foundation +

Family Dance Movement Class (2 ½–3 year olds)

A fun and creative movement class for toddlers aged 2½ and above and their parent, grandparent or carer. Taught by a highly experienced and respected RAD teacher and accompanied by a pianist, these classes are a perfect introduction to movement and dance and provide a good springboard into the RAD Pre School curriculum. The classes are designed to improve the children's confidence and co-ordination and develop their social skills. Using an array of props and lively music, the classes guarantee to capture the children's and adult's imagination.

Dance to Your Own Tune, levels 1 & 2 (3–4 year olds)

Movement, music, and magic in our curriculum for children aged 3–4 years. Taught with a live pianist, these are lively but structured classes that develop children's physical skills and encourage creativity, expression, and musicality. And, behind all the fun, they'll actually be prepared for a transition to ballet and other dance genres at higher levels.

Pre Primary and Primary in Dance (5–6 year olds)

These structured classes develop students' physical skills, stamina, creativity, expression and musicality using a range of movements and musical styles. The syllabi prepare students for a successful transition to ballet and other dance genres at higher levels.

RAD Graded Ballet (Grades 1–8)

The Graded Examinations in Dance Syllabus consists of three dance disciplines:

- **Ballet** - the foundation and the most important part of the syllabus.
- **Free Movement** - influenced by and incorporating movements in common with other dance styles such as Natural Movement, Contemporary and Classical Greek Dance.
- **Character** - the theatrical presentation of national dance using original ethnic dance and music which has been freely adapted for the theatre. The three styles — Hungarian, Russian and Polish — were selected because of their historic importance in the development of the nineteenth century full-length classical ballets.

Solo Performance Award (Grades 1–5)

In addition to an Examination at each level, we offer optional Solo Performance Award exams. This is an excellent opportunity for students to present three dances to an RAD Examiner where they will be assessed on technique, musicality, performance and recall. A great benefit of this is that students are able to treat this like a real performance. They also have the option of enhancing their uniform to make simple costumes.

Students can only join this class at the start of a term and must already have taken an exam in the corresponding exam level of the Solo Performance Award class. **This class runs for one term only** and the Award is taken towards the end.

Pre Vocational Ballet (Grade 4 +)

A non-syllabus class specifically designed for students from Grade 4 upwards to develop their technique and strength and gain a sound knowledge of the vocabulary required for Intermediate Foundation. An introduction to pointe work will be included when students are deemed ready by the teacher. This will ensure a more seamless transition from the Graded syllabus into Vocational levels. Entry into this class requires 70 marks or more in their last exam (Grade 3 and above), or a recommendation by their teacher with a trial class (no trial class is needed if gained 70+) and must be taken in addition to at least one Graded class. There will be an annual assessment to ensure the students are of the correct standard.

Scholars (Grade 4+)

Scholars is a new class added to the Dance School timetable for students who show an advanced and skilled level of ballet. It is for students of Grade 4 and above, who achieved 80+ in their last exam. Students work to perfect technique, performance skills, pointe work (if applicable) and many other aspects to become a professional dancer. There will be performance opportunities for this class. Entry into this class is by invitation only and students will require a trial class.

RAD Vocational Ballet (Intermediate Foundation–Advanced 2)

The Vocational Graded Examinations in Dance Syllabus provides an **in-depth study** of ballet, developing students' technique, music and performance skills and introduces pointe work for female candidates. This highly-focused and practical training prepares students for a dance, or dance-related, career. The syllabi are appropriate for students from the age of 11 years. Students wishing to study for Vocational Graded examinations should have the maturity and technical aptitude for demanding study.

Classical Ballet with a Focus on Pointe Work A (Intermediate levels)

A classical ballet class with a strong focus on the development of pointe work. Following a structured warm-up, students will study at least 30 minutes of pointe work. This is a fantastic opportunity for students at Intermediate Level and above (or Intermediate Foundation level with recommendation from a Dance School teacher) to strengthen and develop their technique in this key area of classical ballet, whilst also working on their performance and artistry skills.

Classical Ballet with a Focus on Pointe Work B (Advanced levels)

A classical ballet class with a strong focus on the development of pointe work. Following a structured warm-up, this 1 hr 30 minute class will give students a minimum of 45 minutes of pointe work. This is a fantastic opportunity for students at Advanced levels and above to strengthen and develop their technique in this key area of classical ballet.

Non Syllabus Ballet (Advanced Levels only)

A non-syllabus, classical ballet class for students of Advanced level. Students are given the opportunity to use their RAD syllabus training in this challenging and focused class.

Discovering Repertoire Level 2

A classical ballet performance programme, an innovative new concept in training and assessment from the RAD. Uniquely, the programme includes well-known classical repertoire, meaning students will learn and dance choreography that they have seen on stage, set to music that they know and love. Level 2 is equivalent to Grade 5/Intermediate Foundation, and in this level, students will learn modified variations from *Coppélia* and *Giselle*. Students are able to take an exam in this when certain criteria has been reached, if required.

Boys Ballet (Level 1: 5–8 year-olds, Level 2: 9–11 year-olds, Level 3: 12–16 year-olds, Boys Beginners: 9 years+)

A specialist non-syllabus class for boys which focuses on male ballet technique and choreography. Taught by a male RAD teacher, the classes develop core strength, musicality and presentation skills. Promoting fitness and well-being, Boys Ballet provides a core technique that will enhance performance in all other styles of dance, from jazz and tap to contemporary and street dance.

Ballet for Beginners (13–17 year olds)

Suitable for students with little or no previous experience of ballet, these non-syllabus classes introduce the basics of ballet technique with an emphasis on fun and enjoyment. The study of ballet improves posture, general health and coordination whilst giving the opportunity to express and communicate through music and movement. The classes are taught by a highly experienced RAD teacher and accompanied by a pianist and are a perfect preparation for RAD adult ballet or Graded syllabus classes.

Jazz Juniors (4- 7 years)

This fun and energetic class gives the perfect introduction to jazz dance by developing co- ordination, introducing technique and building confidence in a friendly and welcoming environment. The students will learn fun dance routines to varying music styles.

Jazz Level 1 (7–10 year olds)

Students will begin to develop basic jazz dance technique including preparation for turning, leaps and isolation movements. Warm-up exercises are followed by a fun dance routine in a lively and energetic environment.

Jazz Level 2 (11–17 year olds)

Following a jazz warm-up and technical exercises, students learn choreography in various styles including lyrical, commercial and musical theatre. Developing routines over a few weeks, students gain a sound knowledge of the style before moving on to new choreography. This fun and energetic general level class is taught by a professional teacher and choreographer.

Creative (4–8 year olds)

Tell a story through dance in this inspiring and imaginative class! Participants are encouraged to express themselves through music, movement and improvisation. This class helps to prepare students for other dance genres including contemporary and jazz.

Contemporary (Level 1: 9–12 year olds, Level 2: 13–17 year olds)

Age guidelines for contemporary are not strict. Classes are levelled according to skill set and pace of the class.

Contemporary is versatile and can be danced to almost any style of music, or be mixed with other dance forms to create new styles of movement.

Level 1 – (Beginners and Improvers) - provides the perfect introduction to contemporary dance technique, movement and self-expression. Exercises are developed to create choreographed routines.

Level 2 – (Intermediate and Advanced) -further develops student's movement skills and vocabulary, stretching them physically and creatively. This class also provides additional technique support for students taking GCSE or A Level Dance courses.

Street Starters (4–8 years)

Fun, energetic and professionally taught, this structured dance class is designed to develop co-ordination, introduce technique and build confidence in a friendly and welcoming environment. Students learn Street dance styles to the latest tunes, a great way to introduce children to dance!

Street Dance (Level 1: 9–13 year olds, Level 2: 14–25 year olds)

High energy and stylised, these urban style classes are taught by a professional dancer and choreographer. Routines incorporate movements such as popping, locking, funk, jamming and hip hop and are performed to commercial and popular music. Students are also encouraged to express themselves through improvisation and free styling!

Song & Dance (Level 1: 7–11 year olds, Level 2: 12–17 year olds)

Covering a range of musical genres, from current recording artists to musical theatre and film, Song & Dance gives students the opportunity to learn their favourite tracks and the dance combinations to perform them to. Students will develop skills in breathing, pitch, tone, harmony, voice projection and performance.