

RADiate PROJECT

A woman with dark hair, wearing a blue t-shirt with 'RAD' repeated on a lanyard, sits on the floor in a dance studio. She is looking towards a young boy on her right. To her left, another young boy is sitting on the floor, looking towards her. The background features a wooden ballet barre and a light blue wall with abstract geometric shapes.

Inclusive dance classes with specialist dance artists, for primary school children with special educational needs and disabilities.

Generously supported by Paul Hamlyn Foundation and Kusuma Trust

Movement = a fundamental mode of human expression

**ROYAL ACADEMY
OF DANCE**

Schools information pack

RADiate sessions aim to engage children through dance, movement, music and sensory props to support their holistic development.

Sessions are created to respond to the individual needs of the children participating.

RADiate dance artists work alongside school staff to engage and encourage each child using ideas based on class topics, or led by their interests.

RADiate works to achieve its aims by:

- Planning and delivering fun, creative and sensory dance activities on a weekly basis, underpinned by a coherent structure
- Enabling children to work alongside their peers and support staff to reach their full potential
- Working in partnership with the school staff to ensure that children make progress at their own pace in a supportive and motivational environment
- Recruiting a small team of highly-experienced dance artists, who attend termly CPD and who are assessed at regular intervals to ensure all expectations are met

Children benefit from:

- A non-verbal way to express themselves and their individuality
- Tailored classes that respond and develop at the pace of the children, to respond to their needs
- The use of Makaton to support their communication skills
- Weekly classes that provide the opportunity to make gradual progress within the routine and structure of the class

School staff benefit from:

- Collaboration with a specialist team of dance artists with a wealth of experience delivering inclusive dance and movement sessions
- New ideas to support their pupils' engagement and learning
- Developing skills to support pupils in creative dance and movement sessions
- Developing their confidence over a term/academic year, in their ability to use ideas and activities from the RADiate sessions within their curriculum topics and themes
- The opportunity to share in a fun and creative experience with their pupils

Term dates

Please advise at the start of the academic year/term if you have any inset days scheduled that will affect the planned delivery of your sessions.

Autumn 2024 11 weeks

Term Starts:	Monday 16 September (for 5 weeks)
Half Term:	Monday 28 October – Friday 1 November
Continues from:	Monday 4 November (6 weeks)
Term Ends:	Friday 13 December

Spring 2025 10 weeks

Term Starts:	Monday 6 January (5 weeks)
Half Term:	Monday 17 – Friday 21 February
Continues from:	Monday 24 February (5 weeks)
Term Ends:	Friday 28 March

Summer 2025 10 weeks*

Term Starts:	Monday 28 April (4 weeks)
Half Term:	Monday 26 – Friday 30 May
Continues from:	Monday 2 June (6 weeks)
Term Ends:	Friday 11 July

* The RADiate Summer Sharing may be inclusive or an additional week.

Delivery

Minimum hours

Schools are required to sign up to a minimum of two consecutive hours per week for in-person RADiate dance sessions. Further hours can be added.

Availability

We will work with you to find a suitable regular time in the school week which matches our dance artist availability with your school and resources. Having a degree of flexibility allows us to match each school with the appropriate dance artist with the skills, knowledge, and experience to best support the needs of your pupils.

Meet the dance artist

Once a dance artist is matched to your school, an online meeting / or a site visit is arranged to meet with key contacts ahead of starting the dance sessions. This will be an opportunity to ask questions, discuss any key learning and development aims, to set expectations for the term / year, as well as to establish good practise. Viewing the space(s) available for the dance sessions would be part of a visit.

Risk assessment

We ask schools to share a copy of their own risk assessment to help identify any additional key considerations, additional to our checklist.

Sessions

We work with each individual school to confirm the weekly timetable, whereby we allocate the minimum two hours between different classes / groups according to the pupils needs and learning goals. We suggest between 20-45 minutes is allocated per group, though we are flexible so that we can meet the needs of each school and their pupils.

First session

The first week of the academic year (or first week of the term where the groups may change) will be an observation session where the dance artist can meet the pupils and staff that they will be working with. This is a chance to understand each pupil's access needs and read through their passport/profile folders in class to gain an understanding of how best to tailor the sessions.

Number of pupils

The maximum number of pupils in a group depends on the size of the space available for the dance sessions, how many accompanying adults there are and the needs of the pupils. We do ask that normal staffing ratios are maintained for the dance sessions and the expectation is that school staff participate and continue to support students. Each dance artist will work with school staff to advise how to best to support students while dancing.

Evaluation

Each term schools are required to provide feedback to aid future planning and ensure we are continuing to meet the needs of each school and every student engaged in the project. Our Research Officer arranges short, termly verbal discussions with each school at a suitable time to hear your thoughts on the project.

Hybrid delivery

We can deliver live-online sessions that are designed for smaller spaces and if students are required to participate from home for example. This may take the form of pre-recorded sessions so that parents and carers have the flexibility to access these at a convenient time for their children. This is an option we can discuss with individual settings if it is relevant.

Communication

The general email address, radiate@rad.org.uk is monitored Monday – Friday, 9am-5pm.

Dance Artists

Schools will receive a profile of the assigned dance artist, which provides their contact information, DBS number and details of recent safeguarding, SEND and first aid training.

Any last-minute changes that arise week to week, should be communicated to the dance artist via the details on their profile or in person, and via the RADiate email address in the first instance.

We will also provide visual resources that support the introduction of the dance artists, and can be shared with your pupils to help them prepare for their RADiate session.

Curriculum Topics

We welcome school staff to discuss class topics and curriculum links via email, or in person before or after a session.

Artist Development Officer

Leading the mentoring, assessment and development of our dance artist's teaching practise. They will visit the school to view the delivery of classes once per term and deliver a CPD session for your school staff in collaboration with the dance artist.

Research and Coordination Officer

Responsible for collating feedback and data to complete the project evaluation and annual report. They will work with your school and staff to understand how the project is working for you and your pupils.

Fees

£49.00 per 2 hours minimum per week

Subsidised rates for each term, based on 2-hour session

Autumn term, 11 weeks:	£539
Spring term, 10 weeks:	£490
Summer term, 10 weeks:	£490

Team

Katie Dyke-Coomes: Project Manager

Amy Robinson: Artist Development Officer

Emma Jones: Research and Coordination Officer and fully qualified and licensed Makaton Tutor

Lead Dance Artists

Caroline Forrest
Holly Smith
Jasmine Hall

Laura Heywood
Maria Cassar
Kirsty Purnell

Supporting Artists

Annabell Duft
Annie-Rose Grantham
Charlotte Fanner
Hannah Carton

Katie Tongue
Loren McKillop
Patrick Webster
Zollien Dove

Gia Gray: Head of Dance School

Correct as of June 2024