

**ROYAL ACADEMY  
OF DANCE**

**ACCESSIBILITY  
GUIDE**



## Introduction

Welcome to the Royal Academy of Dance (people call us the RAD for short). We've put this guide together to help to prepare you to attend a workshop or course.

The RAD is a world-leading organisation for dance. People come to our headquarters to learn about teaching dance and to experience dance classes and activities like ballet, contemporary, hip hop, South Asian dance, and more.

This guide has information about our building, and images to help anyone who may be anxious (or curious) about their visit.

It also has information to help you find your way to the RAD and we hope that this helps you to feel prepared for your visit.



The main entrance to the RAD is shown in the picture above, through the glass doors under the brown archway. The building is on York Road in Battersea, London, and we are on the ground floor. People live on the floors above us.

To enter the main foyer and reception area, go through the glass doors under the archway with the Royal Academy of Dance sign. This is the entrance you will arrive at, if travelling on foot or via public transport.





When you enter the building, you will see the reception desk straight ahead of you. This is where our team can answer any questions you might have.

RAD staff wear a red lanyard like the one shown in the picture below.

There are grey benches where you can relax before, during and after an activity, class, or show.

There are stainless steel water fountains where you can get a cup of water or fill up your reusable bottle for free.





## Café

There is a café where you can buy snacks such as crisps, pizza, sandwiches, or drinks.

Food or hot drinks are not allowed in the dance studios or studio theatre (where the shows are performed), so please finish anything beforehand or save it for afterwards.

The main foyer area can sometimes be quite busy and noisy with people chatting, drinking, and snacking.

You can find toilets to the left or right of the reception desk. These are accessible toilets with baby-changing facilities.





## RAD shop

There is a shop where you can buy a range of dancewear and accessories, including bags, stationery, and jewellery. There are also dance books and DVDs to browse and purchase.

You can also make an appointment to have dance shoes fitted.





## **RAD north entrance**

The RAD's north entrance is located towards the back of the building and shown in the picture above. This is where we register for some of the summer courses and where coaches pick-up for theatre trips.

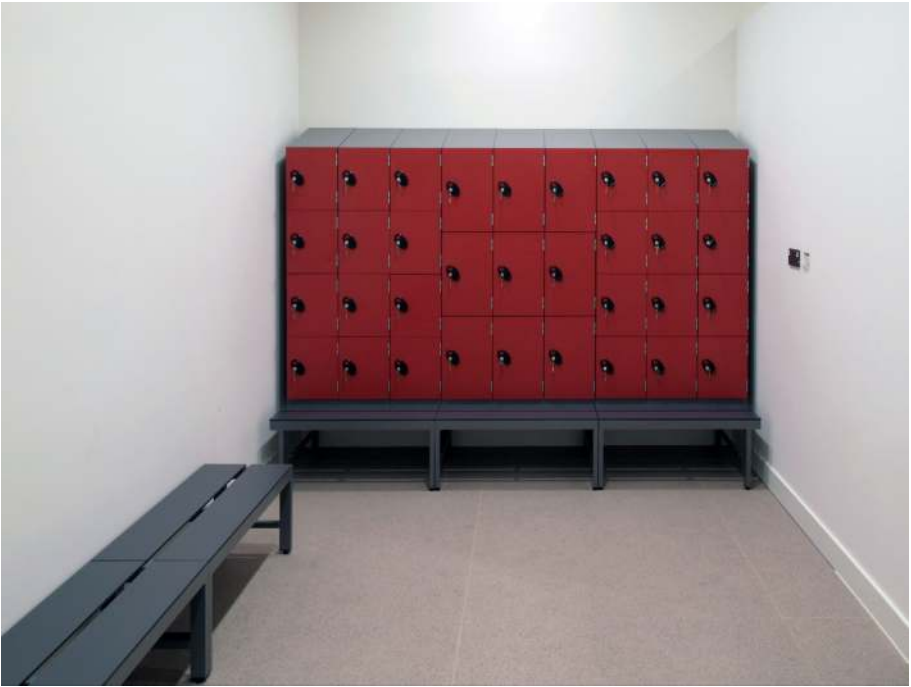
Through the glass door into the reception area, you can find seating and tables as shown in the picture below.





In this area there is an accessible toilet and shower facility. RAD staff will be able to guide you through the double doors to other changing areas and to the studio spaces.





## Changing rooms

In each changing room, there is at least one toilet and a shower cubicle. There are benches and pegs, and some of our changing rooms have lockers.



## Dance Studios

We have 7 different studios, you can see the names and find images of each one below.

### The Linbury Studio



### The Lee Studio



## The Presidents Studio



## The Weston Studio



## The Dorfman Studio



## The Kusuma Studio



## The Jo Manoukian Studio



Some of our large studios can divide into two smaller spaces.



Outside each studio entrance you will find a rack to put your outdoor shoes on.

Inside each studio you will find everything a dance class might need to use.

This includes a mirrored wall, ballet barres, a piano, and a music system. We also have cupboards where we can store away some of this equipment. There are Pilates and yoga mats in the cupboards.

And, there are also touchscreen TV's that may be used in some lessons to show images and video clips to help show you what to do.





## **Aud Jepsen Studio Theatre**

To enter the studio theatre, go to the left of the foyer and through the red double doors.

Families and friends coming to enjoy a sharing can sit in any available seat on a first come, first served basis. We recommend that you arrive early to choose the seat where you would feel most comfortable – specially if you would like to sit somewhere like an aisle seat.



## The Wolfson Library

We also have a library at the RAD with one of the largest dance collections in the UK.

On the shelves you can find books, journals, CDs, DVDs, exhibition and auction catalogues about dance, and Benesh Movement Notation scores.

The library is open from 9.30am Monday–Friday. You need an appointment to look at archive materials, Monday–Thursday, 10am– 5.30pm only.



## Planning your visit

We have an accessible venue, with facilities including:

- adapted toilets and showers,
- flat access to the studio theatre, dance studios shop and café,
- and reserved parking for visitors with disabilities.

## Public transport

It's easy to reach us using public transport. To plan your journey and for up-to-date information, visit the [TFL Journey Planner](#).

### Bus

Numbers 44, 295, C3 and N44 stop directly outside at Hope Street/Plantation Wharf. The number 170 also stops nearby at York Gardens and Wallis Close.

### Tube/train

The closest mainline station is Clapham Junction which is around 800 metres away (8 mins walk, or 3 mins cycling). Take the Grant Road exit for a short walk or bus ride.

Clapham Junction is managed by National Rail and trains go to London Waterloo via Vauxhall and to London Victoria (both around a 10-minute journey) and to the south including Brighton and Southampton. The London Overground, also stops at Clapham Junction, which calls at stations including West Brompton, Kensington (Olympia), Shepherds Bush, Stratford, and Willesden Junction.

Victoria station (Victoria, Circle and District tube lines) is a train, bus, or taxi ride away from the RAD. You can take the train from Victoria to Clapham Junction station or take the 170 bus from Victoria Station to Wallis Close, a 3-minute walk from the RAD.



## **Bike**

Cycle Superhighway 8 (CS8) passes in front of the RAD with on-street cycle lanes on York Road. There are also bike racks available on both sides of the building. There is also a Santander Cycle Hire docking station at about 250 metres away on Hibbert Street, and a second 400 metres away on Usk Road.

## **River Bus**

Plantation Wharf Pier is a few minute's walk away, with regular boats (River Bus RB6) to and from Embankment, London Bridge, and Canary Wharf. This runs every 30 minutes during peak morning and evening periods.

## **Coach**

There is a limited amount of space for minibuses or coaches to stop on York Place at the north entrance to the RAD. To help reduce noise and air pollution, please make sure engines are switched off when parking for a short stay only.

## **Car**

If you're coming by car, the easiest route from Wandsworth Bridge southern roundabout, is to take the York Road A3205 towards Battersea. You will see a Travelodge on the left after half a mile, and the RAD is right next door.

From Vauxhall Bridge you can join the A3205 Nine Elms Lane and go straight along to the Battersea Park Road. Travel straight through to York Road on which the RAD is situated.

## **Parking**

To reserve a disabled place, please get in touch with our colleagues, we're always happy to help on 020 7326 8000 or at [facilities@rad.org.uk](mailto:facilities@rad.org.uk).

## ULEZ charge

RAD is outside the London's congestion charge zone and inside the ULEZ and LEZ charge zone. Please check the [TFL website](#) to find out when the ULEZ charge applies.

For information on exemptions, discounts and how to pay, visit [Transport for London](#).

We hope you enjoy your visit to the RAD. If there is any further information you need, please contact our front-of-house team by phone on 020 7326 8000 (Monday to Sunday, 8am-6pm)