



**PERFORMING ARTS STUDIO**

**PERFORMANCE  
PROGRAM HANDBOOK  
&  
PARENT INFORMATION  
2020**

A Guide for Students and Parents

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## 1. STUDIO HANDBOOK

This is available on our website and is a wonderful introduction to our studio and should answer all your questions.

**>> ACCESS STUDIO HANDBOOK**

Link not working? Visit [tidcdance.com.au/allforms](http://tidcdance.com.au/allforms)

## 2. PERFORMANCE GROUP

### WHAT IS IT?

Our Performance Group offers those students wanting to achieve a high level of skill in their performing while understanding the commitment that is involved. These students may wish to further their career in the performing arts as a performer or a teacher, but it is not focused on this alone, this program also offers opportunities for the student striving to reach their best and gain the enjoyment of dance. This does involve taking part in technique and exam level classes as well extra rehearsals.

Classes offered include:

- \*Classical Ballet (AICD, ATOD and open classes)
- \*Tap (ATOD, technique and open classes)
- \*Jazz (ATOD, technique – including IDT, and open classes)
- \*Contemporary/Lyrical (ATOD, technique and open classes)
- \*Hip Hop (ATOD, technique and open classes)
- \*Musical Theatre (ATOD and open classes)
- \*Troupe classes for routines – to include workshops
- \*Acrobatic, dance conditioning (including pilates, fitness and stretch)
- \*SACE dance Stage 1 and 2
- \*Certificate 3 in Dance
- \*Certificate 4 in Dance Teaching and Management
- \*DanceSteps Teacher Training Programme

Our students involved in this program have been involved Australian Classical Ballet Interstate Program, Adelaide Youth Theatre, Emma Knights Productions, Australian Classical Youth Ballet, Australian Children's Ballet Company, Australian Youth Performing Arts Team (performing around the world), Pelican Productions, Many local theatre companies, TV commercials, modeling, Miss Fashion Australia.

Old Scholars have also worked on Caribbean Cruise Lines, Norwegian Cruise Lines, Carnival Cruise Lines, West End Shows, Broadway Shows, Professional Productions all around Australia, Moulin Rouge & Tokyo Disneyland & DisneySea.

### **3. AGE GROUPS**

UNDER 7 (5 or 6 at 1<sup>st</sup> January)

Must attend Pre-primary or Primary Ballet

UNDER 9 (7 or 8 at 1<sup>st</sup> January)

UNDER 11 (9 or 10 at 1<sup>st</sup> January)

UNDER 13 (11 or 12 at 1<sup>st</sup> January)

UNDER 16 (13, 14 or 15 at 1<sup>st</sup> January)

OPEN AGE (16 and over)

### **4. CLASS STYLES AND REQUIREMENTS**

#### **JAZZ**

Classical ballet class

Exam technique class

Jazz technique class (from Under 11 upward)

Dance conditioning class (from Under 13 upward)

Stretch/acro class where applicable

Performance Group

#### **TAP**

Tap technique class

Tap exam technique class

Performance Group

#### **CLASSICAL**

Two classical technique classes

Dance conditioning class

Stretch/acro class where applicable

#### LYRICAL/CONTEMPORARY

Classical ballet class (preferably two)

Technique class

Dance conditioning class

Stretch/acro class where applicable

#### HIP HOP

Technique class

Dance conditioning class

#### MUSICAL THEATRE

Classical class (at least one)

Technique class

Dance conditioning class

Singing highly recommended

## 5. COMMITMENT

As you can imagine commitment to these classes is essential to get the most out of them work to your full potential. Technique classes are vital to improve dance quality, it is where each student can work at their level and missing classes will not see the necessary improvement required for this program, continual absenteeism may result in removal from routines.

Attendance is also important in our troupe classes, if a student misses this makes it very difficult for the whole team, it is a group commitment. Missing classes may result in students being taken offstage for portions of the routines.

If you are unable to commit to these classes we highly recommend our great new recreational program.

## 6. COMPETITIONS

As part of the Performance Group you will be required to be involved in competitions – these are held throughout the year and involve approx three competitions (dates shown in Diary Dates). You do not have the

option to pick and choose these so if you are unable to commit then we have great options for classes without the commitment.

There is now a fee for all competitions – this will be worked out from the entry cost divided by the number of students in the troupe and will vary from competition to competition. This is now compulsory payment for participation in all competitions.

Only those troupes ready will be given the opportunity to perform and this is at the Directors discretion.

Our Code of Conduct must be observed at all competitions and throughout the year, this is for both parents and students, we expect support and good sportsmanship.

Costumes are also a part of competitions and we do our best to find well priced costumes. We source costumes both locally and overseas – please understand that although measurements are taken dress makers then slot these into a size category, so sometimes these may need alterations – which will be at the cost of the student. These costumes must not be sold outside the school and should be kept in good condition, so that they can be sold to the school or to other students, if needed.

## **7. EXAMINATIONS**

Examinations are an important part of dance, offering an official document to dancers progress. TIDC offer exams in ATOD jazz, tap, classical, hip hop, contemporary and musical theatre and also AICD classical ballet. All students in the performance program (apart from Seniors) are required to attend these classes even if not doing exams as they are a good opportunity for your child to develop their dance skills, demonstrate their progression and gain confidence with examinations. Those taking their exams will progress faster due to the extra rehearsals etc required.

Exams are usually held in July/August and November and are scheduled by an interstate association and are usually during the day, a fee is charged by them with a small additional fee covering exam costs. Our normal dance uniform or hired leotards are required.

We are also pleased that our examinations in higher levels are recognised by the SACE board.

## **8. SOLO LESSONS**

Students at TIDC can also perform solos/duos or trios at competitions held throughout the year, however it is important that priority must be given to your troupe and technique classes.

Several guidelines need to be followed.

\*There is a weekly charge for lessons these vary from teacher to teacher and also for time, you may also be charged a hire fee for venue. These lessons do not cover the teacher's choreography and if wanting to purchase this a further cost will be involved – otherwise the teacher is the sole owner of the routine. Any missed lessons MUST be paid for, you can try and find a replacement also.

\*Solo/duo dances can be performed in all genres. This should be left to the teacher who knows the children's strengths. It is also recommended students do not do too many items – quality over quantity always.

\*Important note that not every student can have a lesson that suits their timetable, this is impossible, so if wanting a solo lesson you need to be flexible.

\*Students can also take private lessons to improve their technique and to focus on troupe or exam work

\*Students will need to have a costume made or purchased for a solo dance. Costume requirements, including hair and make-up, can be discussed with the student's private lesson teacher, but must be approved by them – your ideas may not suit the item at all.

\*Music for solo dances is selected by the private lesson teacher and recorded onto a CD or USB. There is a charge for the music, it is the teacher's time and other expenses incurred, with the money paid directly to the teacher.

\*The student is responsible for providing the correct music to the eisteddfod organisers. CDs should be marked with the name of the student and the section they are performing in. Students are advised to take a backup copy of their music to eisteddfods.

\*Students need to check with their teacher the best competitions to enter as there are now so many and not all competitions suit all children.

\*Please be aware when entering competitions of any conflict with classes, it is a preference NO CLASSES are missed but we understand this can be tricky, however we do request NO performance classes are missed, this will jeopardise students placements in the routines.

\*A Facebook page for all soloists will be created and teachers who have available times in different block will post their times and they can be booked for these short periods to learn a routine which can then be rehearsed with your regular teacher. These can also be used for polishing or rehearsing of routines.

\*All solo/duo students must be part of our competition troupe and do the corresponding genre.

## PARENTS RESPONSIBILITIES

The competition world has changed a lot over the last few years and with so many now on offer it is difficult for teachers to attend all competitions, this then can put pressure on parents.

Some competitions will not allow parents backstage, but the organisers will arrange to help get your child onstage.

With this in mind, a few guidelines for parents.

\*Parents need to have checked the rules and time limits of the competitions they have entered and make sure the teachers are aware – do not cut or change a routine yourself.

\*All competitions are under the TIDC performing arts studio name and the highest standard of conduct is expected.

\*TIDC students must wear their TIDC uniform to and from competitions as well as onstage for presentations.

\*Parents need to submit entries, and ensure they are in correct sections, if not sure then please ask. Comp details will be listed on our solo page – many book out early.

\*Be responsible at the competitions - Organise costumes, appropriate make up and hairstyles, book in on arrival. Also have music ready – many are now via Dropbox.

\*Help your child practise, but please do this in an encouraging manner – much time is wasted when students come back unsure of the past weeks work – make sure they have a device to record work.

\*Studios are available for rental at Elizabeth and West Croydon (also RSL), at limited times for extra practise. an adult must be present at all times and these must be booked in (RSL book directly with them)

\*Do not alter choreography or push teachers to change things because you saw someone else do something on social media etc. Our teachers are all fully trained and will follow SAFE dance practises. Every child is different as is their journey – focus on your child and compliment every small achievement they make.

\*Remember to enjoy the experience with your dancer, how amazing are they getting out and dancing on their own. Remember each decision is that of one (sometimes more) judge and will differ. Do not compare them to other performers, we all grow at different times. Make this a fun and uplifting experience, believe me no one will remember who won that section last week. Dance is a performing art and the more we can give these opportunities the more we will help develop wonderful confident children who can cope with victory and disappointment.

So if you are keen to perform in solo competitions then ALL requests for solo lessons are to be directed through Kerreane and via our website **HERE** – teachers are not to be approached directly for solo lessons.

## **9. CAMP AND WORKSHOPS**

There will be a dance camp held once again this year, it is hard work but a lot of fun with lots of bonding and competition routines will be taught as well as many social activities. There will be a charge involved this covers accommodation, meals, activities and teachers. Full details will be out in the first few weeks of terms, but check diary dates as these have been locked in.

## **10. HOW CAN I HELP MY CHILD IMPROVE?**

The first thing you can do is encourage and inspire them. Expose them to Musicals and dance DVD's and all different styles of music. Try and get a copy of the music they are dancing to and encourage them to practice – no one gets better unless they practice. I always explain that if they learn something new in Maths, they have to go over it again before an exam. It is the same with class – if they don't think about their steps from one week to the next, most of the following lesson is spent "remembering" the previous weeks steps. The same goes for learning scripts and songs.

The more you put into your dancing the more you will get out of it. Remember dancing is a sport and your body is important – you must try to stay healthy and eat right. Always bring water to class and light snacks for during breaks. Regular stretching and training at home is highly recommended.

## **11. GUIDELINES FOR PERFORMANCE GROUPS**

1. Please ensure you have fully read our Studio Handbook this lists all policies and procedures and general housekeeping rules.
2. Everyone must acknowledge and follow our Policies and Code of Conduct.
3. Students and parents of this program must show a full commitment to this program and the teachers and their team.
4. Poor attendance will result in removal from troupes or part of troupes and you may be recommended to move to the recreational stream.
5. Students must attend all compulsory classes relevant to the genre.

6. Regular practise at home and maintaining a good fitness level is very important, students should attend extra acrobatics and conditioning classes within the studio to help them.
7. Injured dancers must still attend classes and watch and record classes, they will need a doctor's approval to continue with classes.
8. Students need to be available for all competitions and rehearsals entered (except interstate), we will not be continually altering routines.
9. Great sportsmanship is essential – do not stand in a public area criticising teachers, students, parents or the event organisation, show support for ALL our students and studios. Stand by your studio and children proudly, except all decisions and grow from each experience.
10. Remember the more you put into anything the more you get out of it – strive to be the best you can. At TIDC we have wonderful and talented teachers to help you be the best YOU can be.

## **12. COMP DATES 2020**

**>> DOWNLOAD COMP DATES**

Link not working? Visit [tidcdance.com.au/allforms](http://tidcdance.com.au/allforms)

A reminder to please read the Studio Handbook as well, if you have further queries then please email Kerreane directly [tidcperformingarts1@me.com](mailto:tidcperformingarts1@me.com).

(Remember change room gossip is NOT the place to get the correct information).