



EXCELLENCE IN THE ART OF CLASSICAL BALLET AND DANCE



INFORMATION FOLDER

The Ballet School Australia



2019

General Information 2019

TERM:	DATES:
One	Wednesday February 6th to Saturday April 13th
Two	Wednesday May 1st to Saturday July 6th
Three	Wednesday July 24th to Saturday September 28th
Four	Wednesday October 16th to Saturday December 21st

(Public Holidays acknowledged unless otherwise notified)

Good Friday	Friday April 19th
Easter Saturday	Saturday April 20th
Easter Monday	Monday April 22nd
Anzac Day	Thursday April 25 th
Queen's Birthday	Monday June 10th
Labour Day	Monday October 7th

ENROLMENT:

Please confirm enrolment and classes by organising a meeting with TBSA Administration. All Enrolment & Acknowledgement forms are to be filled in, signed and returned to TBSA with your enrolment fee. All Booklets provided

must have your signature on each page and a copy will be taken for TBSA records. Please email admin@theballetschoolaustralia.net to schedule your appointment.

Viewing & Open Days 2018

Term One	Sunday March 10th
Term Two	Sunday June 9th
Term Three	Sunday August 25th
Term Four	Sunday November 17th

Holiday Courses 2019:

Summer Intensive	January 21 st to 25 th
April Intensive	April 22 nd to April 27 th
July Intensive	July 15 th to July 21 st
October Intensive	October 7 th to October 12 th

Please note: Various classes are available throughout the courses & are organised according to what is required. Notices will be handed out 4 weeks prior to the holiday courses.

ANNUAL CONCERT - July 12th & 13th

The Ballet School Australia Pty Ltd specialises in the training of classical ballet and dance, utilising the Vaganova and Bolshoi Training methodology and in the International Character Dance Syllabus. We offer examinations in Vaganova grades at all levels, RAD in major levels and International Character Dance Syllabus at all levels.



IMPORTANT NOTES

- **Competitions:** Are at the discretion of TBSA. They **ARE NOT** COMPULSORY!! Repertoire Class Students are given the opportunity to perform solo's, duo's, trio's and ensembles at competitions. Full disclosure will be given about competitions but it is up to the competitor & their family as to whether or not they participate.
- **Cancelled Classes :** If cancelled by TBSA will be credited or other classes will be offered in lieu of missed classes.
- **Missed Classes:** By students will not be refunded or credited (except in extenuating circumstances)
- **Leaving TBSA:** 4 weeks notice must be given prior to the end of the current term, otherwise you will be charged for the following terms fees.
- **Auditions:** When you / your child are ready to audition for various programs, companies or other Full- time schools, TBSA will inform you and it will be YOUR decision as to whether you proceed. If you hear or know of another audition that you would like to be involved with, you must first consult with the principal at TBSA.

HOURS OF ATTENDANCE: (Minimum required for examinations/competitions/performances)

'LITTLE DANCERS" (1)	2 hours per week
"LITTLE DANCERS" (2)	4 hours per week
PRE-PRIMARY	6 hours per week
PRIMARY	9 hours per week
PREPARATORY LEVEL 1	11 hours per week
LEVEL 1	13 + hours per week
LEVEL 2	13 + hours per week
LEVEL 3,4	14 + hours per week
LEVEL 5, SENIOR LEVEL, EXCELLENCE	16 + hours per week
Full Time	30 + hours per week

Stretch and Strength Class is **COMPULSORY** for all students at TBSA.

Stretch & Strength Program at TBSA is the sole property of the principal and may not be taught without her consent or knowledge.



Introduction to "Levels" at TBSA

With a growing need to be able to focus more intently on specific "sets" of students outside the RAD guidelines, we have now introduced the "Ballet Conservatoire" Vaganova training and examination system at TBSA so that students attend classes suited more to their levels and abilities. The RAD Examination levels will continue IN THE MAJOR LEVELS ONLY, but the Vaganova classes will become "Level Specific" so that we ensure that your child is always receiving the best training possible at their particular stage. In order to ascertain levels for students, we must start them at the Pre-Primary level and work through the training system to find which level they will be best suited to.

Applying these levels will allow all of us to work more efficiently with all students and concentrate on issues at their particular grade.

As always, not all students will "fit the mould" and so placement into particular classes will be at the discretion of the teachers.

UNDERSTANDING AGE & ATTENDANCE REQUIREMENTS IN THE JUNIOR SCHOOL:

<u>"LITTLE DANCERS" (1):</u>	4 / 5 year old	- Attending 1 lesson per week (2 hrs - No exams)
<u>"LITTLE DANCERS" (2):</u>	4 / 5 year old	- Attending 2 lessons per week (4hrs - No exams)
<u>PRE-PRIMARY :</u>	5 to 8 year old	- Attending 2 lessons per week (4 hrs exams)
<u>PRIMARY :</u>	6 to 9 year old	- Attending 3 lessons per week (7 hrs exams)

Although we have an "entry age requirement" we will, as always, advance children according to their ability not their age. Students are assessed constantly to work out the most suitable classes for them to attend.

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Why we have set hours of attendance:

After more than 30 years of teaching experience, we have learnt that the best way for children to progress in dance and successfully enter major work, is to have a graduated training programme. This allows them to slowly increase their hours over the years (in conjunction with their schooling) and thereby improve their abilities at each level. It also allows them to make a successful transition into major work, if they decide to carry on their training.

There is a fallacy that if a student is dancing only as a hobby, that they need not attend these hours, as set. For a child to gain true enjoyment out of dance they need to be able to do it properly – this is where the love of dance is born and whilst they do not have to do the hours required of students who will make a career in dance, it is necessary for them to do the set hours so that they may gain the most benefit from their classes. It is surprising how many students later decide that they would like to pursue a career in dance (or the arts) due to the nature of this training.

It is also important to remember the many benefits that dance offers to young people:

Co-ordination /strong development of muscles which helps to protect the skeletal system/discipline / dedication/ deportment and, most importantly, confidence. Young people need to have a belief in their abilities so that they may achieve whatever they wish in life. This will be carried with them throughout their whole life and they do not need to become a dancer to have gained the benefits of this wonderful art form.



Why it is necessary for our students to attend Stretching & Strengthening Classes

We need to know that we are always looking after the best interests of our students and are giving their bodies the best chance to work to the greatest of their abilities and to safeguard their bodies. The Stretching & Strengthening Classes have been developed with that specifically in mind. Not only do students work in a very symmetrical and controlled way, they are also developing a greater sense of awareness and knowledge about their bodies and how they work and, more importantly, their own specific strengths and weaknesses. This means that the likelihood of injury is minimal (if it occurs at all). Well trained dancers should not have injuries and in all the years TBSA has been operating, there has never been an injury, due to dance. We firmly believe that this is in great part due to these classes and the great care that is taken with our teaching methods.



IMPORTANT POINTS

1. Examinations, competitions and concerts **are not** compulsory at TBSA. Every student is given the option of whether they wish to participate. If they do however choose to participate, they must be aware that they have to attend all of the classes at their level, as well as the required rehearsals and courses.
2. Students & parents are always given full information about courses and auditions that are available both within TBSA and outside the school.
3. All work required for competitions will be carried out by TBSA & all of the choreographies will be arranged for the students. These choreographies remain the property of TBSA and may not be performed anywhere else without the choreographer's written consent. Choreographies may be purchased – please consult with the teacher about this.
4. TBSA fully encourages students to engage fully in their academic education & we are always happy to establish a line of communication with the principals & teachers of the schools the students attend, so as to keep abreast of the work the children are doing.
5. It is important that all lines of communication are kept open AT ALL TIMES! If there are ever any problems or queries, please direct them to us immediately. Quite often, because of the teaching load, it is not always possible to speak to some-one immediately but PLEASE send an email or an sms, so that we can back to you as soon as possible. "Car park" or "In House" discussions often lead to misunderstandings and misinterpretation of what is going on, so if you have a concern about YOUR child, the best people to speak to are the ones who are teaching you/you child.
6. Students at TBSA will always be worked to **THEIR** capability & will not necessarily have to work through **ALL** examinations. Students and parents will be kept informed at all levels, as to whether this would be applicable.
7. Every student at TBSA is treated as an individual & all students are given equal opportunities. There is no favouritism or bias. Students are worked according to their abilities and talents & they encouraged to compete ONLY with themselves. TBSA prides itself on providing a warm, caring "family" atmosphere & this has been achieved by teaching the students to help, respect & look after each other. Any form of bullying, backstabbing or bitchiness (on the part of students or parents) **WILL NOT** be tolerated and they will be asked to leave the school, without hesitation.
8. **It is extremely important that you fully understand what our requirements are PRIOR to joining TBSA. Please do not join the school in the hope that you may then be able to reduce or change hours or rules that we have in place. This will not be the case. While we are ALWAYS open to reaching compromises, we will not be bullied into changing or bending our rules.**

PROTOCOLS FOR MANAGEMENT OF FULL TIME, PART TIME AND JUNIOR STUDENTS:

REGARDING FEES:

- * Fees MUST be paid – IN FULL – two weeks PRIOR to the commencement of a new term.
- * There is no reduction in “Term Fees” or “Holiday Courses” for student absences or holidays away. If you do not wish to be charged for lessons missed, then you must pay Casual Rates and not Term Fees.
- * Any lessons cancelled by TBSA will either be re-scheduled or credited. Re-scheduling will be set around the established timetable. If TBSA cannot provide a re-scheduled class, it will be credited.
- * Students who wish to “make-up” classes for lessons they have missed due to extenuating circumstances, must do so within a **2 week** time frame. Email notification must be sent to TBSA stating the reasons for missing classes & the amount of classes to be missed. Make up classes are not given for those students who miss due to parties and other extra curricular activities, family events, etc.
- * Late fees will be added from the day after the “Due Date” for fees.
- * Changing of classes within a term requires a written submission to TBSA and will not result in a reduction of fees for 4 weeks.
- * If changing classes the following term, your changes must be submitted , in writing, 4 weeks prior to the commencement of a new term. Forms for “Change of Class/Hours” are available from our office.
- * Please ensure that you read and sign our “Fee Booklet” & return with your enrolment application.

4 WEEKS NOTICE OF INTENTION TO LEAVE MUST BE SUBMITTED, IN WRITING, ON THE OFFICIAL TBSA “TERMINATION OF ENROLMENT” FORM. THIS FORM MUST BE RECEIVED 4 WEEKS PRIOR TO THE END OF YOUR CURRENT TERM AND MUST BE CO-SIGNED BY THE PRINCIPAL &/OR A MEMBER OF OUR ADMINISTRATION TEAM. IF NOT, THE FOLLOWING TERMS’ FEES WILL BE CHARGED.

REGARDING EXAMINATIONS:

1. TBSA students will be invited to be entered for examinations at the discretion of the teachers and Principal.
2. Students’ who are invited to take their examination, will be required to attend **ALL** classes and courses that are directly related to their examination work. Failure to do so will result in the withdrawal of that students’ examination application.
3. Students will be required to have **AT LEAST 2** private lessons prior to their examination and a minimum of 2 practice rehearsals with the pianist.
4. Students must attend **ALL** required classes at their level to be considered for examinations.
5. All payments for fees regarding examinations must be paid promptly by the due dates. If not, students **MAY NOT** attend classes or rehearsals until the fees are paid. This will include, private lessons, pianist rehearsals, holiday courses and additional classes.

REGARDING PERFORMANCES & CONCERT: Junior students – only students from the Junior Repertoire Class will take part in out of school performances.

1. Senior students, who attend their required hours and rehearsals, will be used for out of school performances.
2. Students who wish to participate in our concert **MUST** attend all of the classes at their required levels, to be considered for the concert.
3. Students must also attend the Intensive School **PRIOR** to the concert, as this is when we do all final pieces and rehearsals. There will be **NO EXCEPTIONS** to this rule.

REGARDING PRIVATE LESSONS:

1. Private lessons forms must be filled in and returned prior to commencing classes.
2. Private lessons must be paid on the day of or prior to the class. If cancelling, a minimum of 24 hours’ notice is required, otherwise you will be charged for the class.





Uniform Requirements

JUNIOR SCHOOL: GIRLS:

"Little Dancers" 1 & 2

Repetto Tunic – DE634 in Celeste
Compression tights (Convertible) Salmon Pink
Pink Blochs Pro-lite Split Sole Ballet Shoes – Leather (Baby Blochs sizes 7 to 9 – only available in full sole).

Pre-Primary to Primary Prep Level 1

Repetto Cap Sleeve Mesh Leotard & Repetto Mesh skirt - Mauve
Repetto Cap Sleeve Mesh Leotard & Repetto Mesh Skirt - Pale Pink

CHARACTER UNIFORM

Black Leather Character shoes
Black $\frac{3}{4}$ sleeve leotard (Energetiks)
Black Studio 7 Circle Skirt
Black tights (Energetiks)
White hair ribbon

ALL GRADES:

MDM PINK CANVAS FLATS
White/pink spencers (available at Target/David Jones/Myers)
Grey Capezio Woollen Tights
Theraband
Yoga Mat
Balance Board

SENIOR & FULL TIME – GIRLS :

- Gaynor Minden Cap Sleeve Leotard in Navy Blue
- Wrap around chiffon skirts – Navy Blue & Black
- Repetto Cap Sleeve Mesh Leotard - Pale Pink (To Intermediate)
- Repetto Strap Mesh leotard (Adv 1 to Full time)
- Repetto Mesh Skirt - Pale Pink
- Energetiks Compression Tight (Convertible) Pink and Black
- Pink Blochs or Capezio Juliet Leather Ballet Shoes (Split sole)
- Pink Canvas Ballet Shoes (Split sole)
- Black Leather Character Shoes
- Pointe shoes – please consult with TBSA regarding pointe shoes
- Capezio Woollen Tights
- Bunheads Red Theraband
- Yoga Mat , leg weights , balance board
- Leg warmers
- Half tutu's for practice (white and /or black)

JUNIOR, SENIOR & FULL TIME SCHOOL: BOYS:

- Navy Blue Footless tights, Black Footless tights, Repetto Grey tights.
- Black Repetto Allover
- Boys flesh coloured support
- White short sleeved boys leotard (Capezio)
- White short sleeved t- shirt
- White split sole canvas ballet shoes
- Black split sole canvas ballet shoes
- White and black ankle socks (thin)
- Black Leather Character Shoes
- Warm Up Suit
- Flexistretcher, leg weights , balance board
- Legwarmers
- TBSA UNIFORMS AND BAGS – Available through TBSA

ALL BALLET & POINTE SHOES MUST BE TIGHTLY FITTED TO THE STUDENTS' FEET. THEY MUST BE CHECKED WITH THE TEACHERS PRIOR TO SEWING ELASTICS OR RIBBONS ON.

For all of the uniform requirements, please go to:

BALLET EMPORIUM - 335 Windsor Road, Baulkham Hills. 2153

Tel: 02 9967 5565

BELLAIRS - 6 Coles Parade, Newport NSW 2106

Tel : 0434 405 791

ALL STUDENTS require an A4 file with clear document protectors and an exercise book.

TBSA T-Shirts, Tracksuits, hair slides, bun warmers, warm up suits, flexistretchers, ankle weights & bags are available through TBSA only.

- ✚ ALL STUDENTS require an A4 file with clear document protectors and an exercise book.
- ✚ ALL STUDENTS wishing to compete or perform with TBSA will be required to make up an "Emergency Kit". The list is available from the TBSA office.

If you are uncertain of sizing's or fittings, please inform the teachers who will be happy to attend the store with you to ensure correct fitting.

PLEASE NOTE:

Repetto uniforms are available ONLY from Ballet Emporium. We usually organise one or 2 days a term, when Ballet Emporium and Bellairs come to our studio's to do all of the fittings at the studio. You will be advised of the times as they become available.

ETIQUETTE AND GROOMING RULES

- Hair must ALWAYS be neatly worn. **Girls:** hair up off the neck in a tidy bun, with ALL loose bits pinned in. **Boys:** hair tidily done with no long fringes on the face.
- Please keep additional pins, hairnets, brushes and combs at the studio at all times, so that we can do the students hair if needed.
- No jewellery is to be worn into classes with the exception of small stud earrings.
- Mobile phones ARE NOT permitted in the studios.
- Food and drink is not to be consumed in the studios. Only water may be taken into the studio.
- TBSA T-shirts, track suits & Gumby's ONLY to be worn into the studio.
- UNIFORM ONLY is to be worn during the week for all levels from Preparatory Ballet to Intermediate. Adv 1,2 & Solo Seal students are required to wear uniform to syllabus classes but may wear other leotards for their other classes.
- ALL students MUST bring their pointe shoes, therabands, drink bottles, small towels, pillowpets and any other requirement with them AT ALL TIMES.
- Cubicles must be kept neat and orderly & are not to have food left in them.
- Shoes and bags are to be stored on top of the cubicle cabinets or VERY neatly against the wall.
- Students & Parents MUST inform TBSA if they are not able to attend their classes. It is best to do this via sms, Facebook messaging or email, particularly if a class has started.
- When students arrive at the studio, they must be ready to start class at the allocated time. Students who are late, must wait until the music stops and then ask their teacher for permission to join class & apologise for being late.
- Students who are more than half an hour late for class will be required to do a warm up on their own and then commence work in the next class, as it is too disruptive for others and unsafe for them to join in that far into a class.
- Every student at TBSA has a CD folder upstairs with their music in it. If they are used for rehearsals, each student is responsible for returning the cds and folders back to their original location.
- Students are not allowed to leave the TBSA premises without permission from your teachers and in the company of others. Younger students must wait INSIDE for their parents/guardians to collect them.
- Respect is very important in our school – respect for parents, each other and teachers is highly regarded, so we would please ask everyone to be mindful of how they speak to each other and how they conduct themselves.
- If there are ever any problems that arise, PLEASE speak to the principal IMMEDIATELY. Waiting room or car park talks can quickly become out of control and “small” situations can become larger than life and cause irreparable problems. Communication is the key to keeping everything running smoothly and if you are not happy, for ANY reason, you MUST let us know – do not stew on it. We can ONLY fix what we know about.

We realise at TBSA that life cannot always be run to a “timetable”. It is unpredictable and busy and we are often thrown curve balls. This is fully understood and we are compassionate when things happen that are beyond your control. It happens to us too, so we would also ask for your compassion when sometimes the things we have planned do not go ahead as they should because of circumstances beyond our control. If we all work together to communicate effectively and help each other out, we should be able to go a long way to combatting these problems.

ONSITE CAFETERIA



TBSA takes great pleasure in announcing that it has its own cafeteria within the building that caters for all tastes and types – from amazing coffees and drinks (lactose free, almond milk, soy, etc) to catering for vegan, vegetarian or just fussy eaters ☺ . You can place an order for those longer days and nights, when your children need to have lunch or dinner, or you can pick up a snack on the go. Maybe, just sit and relax on our beautiful lounges with a GREAT cuppa and some books ☺ Order sheets with meal options are available from the café or you can email through an order.

It is just ANOTHER way that we try to look after you !!



THE HEART OF CLASSICAL BALLET TRAINING

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