

FAQs for Classical Ballet Academy

Q. How many auditions are held each year?

A. We hold 2 auditions per year: one in May for entry in September and one in November for entry in January. They are generally on a Sunday with groups for different ages and levels. The date of the next audition is always posted in this webpage.

Q. What is the age requirement, the cost of the audition and do students need to prepare a solo?

A. No preparation for the audition is necessary as we watch the students in a normal class situation with a flexibility test. The youngest entry age is 7 and the oldest 16. The administration cost is £20 per student.

Q. What should the student wear and are experience and certificates necessary?

A. Students should wear classical ballet dance wear and we do prefer the younger female students to wear short socks and the older ones pink tights. Male applicants may wear shorts/ tights and a slim fitting T shirt or leotard. Clean ballet shoes for everyone. Experience is not essential as we look for potential for training.

Q. What does 'potential for training' mean?

A. It means that we feel a certain type of student will benefit and progress in our programme. Roughly divided up, defined as follows :

- Well proportioned body with long limbs and good flexibility
- Understanding of classical shapes and steps
- Ability to hear and interpret the music

Q. Is feedback available after auditions and can a pupils retry if unsuccessful ?

A. We are unable to give any feedback due to the very large number of applicants. We are always happy to see students again and children can succeed after several attempts.

Q. Can a successful student continue with their present dance school and also miss classes for other events?

A. The programme works alongside the student's present dance training. We are happy for dancers to take part in other programmes but not missing more than 2 CBA sessions per term, except in special circumstances and with prior discussion. It is essential that parents give a term's notice if their child wishes to leave the programme (as per Terms and Conditions.)

Q. How many levels does the programme consist of?

A. There are 6 groups for girls and 2 for boys. We place the student in the appropriate group after auditioning but this can change throughout the year. We have a yearly assessment in the Spring/Summer Term and students will receive a report. We do not assess students out of the programme but will make group adjustments if necessary. A progressing student can stay with us until the age of 18 and reach group 6.

Q. Is there a performance or show?

A. This programme does not have a show but we do open the classical class to parents at the end of each term.