

# Dance Examinations

## Primary



At Dance Desires we offer examinations in the Royal Academy of Dance (R.A.D) for Ballet which caters for a variety of ages. Within the school we offer these exams once a year usually held during the months of July/August; the exact dates are set by the R.A.D. Successful completion of annual examinations in any dance style provides a way of assessing progress from year to year and of maintaining industry recognised standards. Furthermore examinations not only help develop self-discipline, commitment and a strong work ethic, but they also provide a strong sense of accomplishment and success.

Pre-Primary is the first level in which students can be assessed in Ballet. The R.A.D endeavours to make this experience as fun and friendly as possible to help students develop a positive attitude towards examinations. For these reasons we do not call this level an Examination - it's simply known as a 'Class Award'. The main difference between the Pre-Primary Class Award and the higher levels, is that ALL students will pass without exception, and that students are accompanied by Miss Alanna into the Class Award. The Pre-Primary Class Award is approximately 30 minutes in length and the students enter in groups of 8 or less with the assistance of their class teacher. Miss Alanna will be in the room with the children assisting them through all their exercises, talking and dancing with them in order to make the children feel as comfortable as possible. Students gain many valuable skills through this process from technical acquisition, musical understanding, rhythm, co-ordination to strength, dance communication and presentation.

The exam day always proves to be fun and exciting; students enjoy getting dressed up and feeling special while showing off their skills. Exams should be encouraged and looked upon as a positive experience. Participating in exams is new to a lot of students particularly at this level, so please trust in your class teacher (Miss Alanna) and participate in the exam for 2017.

### Primary Examinations

Style	Grade/Level	Total Length of Examination Day	Exam Date:	Rehearsal	Exam Fee
R.A.D Classical Ballet OR R.A.D Class Award	Primary	1hr 30mins	Proposed Ballet Dates: Monday 20th August - Wednesday 29th August	Proposed Dates: Sunday 22nd July Sunday 29th July or Sunday 5th August	Examination \$75 OR Class Award \$67

	<b>Exam Levy</b>	<b>\$50</b>
	<b>Total</b>	

\*Please note that examination dates are PROPOSED only, and the exact date and time cannot be confirmed until closer to the day. However where 2 or more days are provided students will only be required for one of these dates. Due to the volume of candidates we have to spread the load over multiple days.

Exam entries close **SATURDAY 28TH APRIL**. Entries and FULL PAYMENT MUST BE RETURNED by this date.

Please fill out the attached Entry form and return directly to Miss Alanna or class teacher. Then keep this Information Sheet for your records.

**\*\*Please DO NOT add exam payment to normal term fees - please keep payments separate\*\***  
Exam Fees:

The examination fees go directly to the R.A.D or S.F.D and covers costs such as the examiners wages, flights, accommodation, examination certificates, reports and medals. As Term 2 fees and examination entry fees are all due within the same week, parents wishing to pay in instalments may contact Miss Alanna or Janine Bentley-Minns to arrange a payment plan. We hope this may facilitate the student's full participation in examinations.

#### The Exam Levy is \$50

This money is paid to Dance Desires to cover the cost of hall hire, staff, examiners meals and transport, uniform hire and examination accessories. The exam levy remains the same whether your child participates in one or all styles of examinations. This is in the hope that it may facilitate more children being able to participate in more examinations.

All money is paid directly to **Dance Desires** so that one large cheque can be sent to the R.A.D and S.F.D on behalf of the school.

#### Payment Options:

**Cash:** Please place cash in a clearly labelled sealed envelope. The envelope must be marked with the child's full name, class and exact amount contained inside.

**Cheque:** Please make all cheques payable to Dance Desires.

**Internet Payment:** Please note when making an internet payment the child's **FULL NAME** and the word **EXAM** must be entered with payment. The account details are as follows:

**Account Name:** Dance Desires

**BSB:** 013352

**Account Number:** 220394806

## **F.A.Q**

### **How often do exams take place?**

Exams take place once a year only. Exams are usually held during the months of August/September however the dates are set by the examining boards and the exact dates can only be confirmed closer to the examination date.

### **Where do the exams take place?**

Exams take place at the Dance Desires Studio: 6 Egan Street Carnegie 3163

### **What time of the day are the exams held?**

The Ballet exams (R.A.D) are held on a week day. Students will be required for approximately 1hr 30 mins. Students will need to take a small amount of school time off. Most academic schools are aware of this and only require notification from the parent, however if you wish for a formal letter from Dance Desires we will happily provide one at your request. Tap and Jazz exams will be held over the course of the weekend.

### **Are dance examinations compulsory?**

Although examinations are not compulsory, they are strongly encouraged. Exam candidates gain many skills such as, technical acquisition, musical understanding, rhythm, co-ordination, strength, dance communication and presentation as well as self-confidence, motivation and discipline.

### **How do I know if my child is ready for a dance examination?**

If you are reading this Information Sheet then you will know that Miss Alanna feels your child demonstrates the skills and confidence to participate in an examination. Although Dance Desires cannot guarantee your child will pass (with the exception of the Pre-Primary Class Award where ALL students pass), we only ever put forward students we think will be successful.

### **What will the students receive?**

On successful completion of the examination, students will receive a certificate that bares their name and level of completion, a report that details their strengths and weaknesses, and in most cases they also receive a medal for their achievements. All reports are written by the prospective examiner and all certificates and medals are provided by the examining board (either the R.A.D or S.F.D)

### **What uniform do the children wear into the examination?**

Dance Desires assists with the cost of examinations by providing every student with the correct exam uniform (with the exclusion of dance shoes and tights - this is for hygiene reasons). The following uniform requirements will be provided for you:

- Leotard (each level has a different colour)
- Hair bow (appropriate to the leotard)
- Waist Band (Grade One students and above)
- Chiffon wrap skirt (Pre-Primary and Primary levels)
- Character Skirt (Grade One Ballet and above)
- Number/Exam identification (all levels and styles)
- Jazz Hot Pant (Jazz exams only)
- Lambada Skirt (Tap exams only)

### **What uniform will I need to provide?**

Dance Underwear/Bodystocking - if your child wishes to wear underwear beneath their tights the only underwear that will be permitted is dance underwear. This is specially designed underwear that matches the colour of the skin and is cut to be discrete under the leotard.

### ***Ballet Examination Candidates***

Ballet Shoes - clean and/or painted

### **What extra rehearsals and classes does my child need to participate in?**

There is only one extra rehearsal that your child will need to attend outside of normal class time. This rehearsal is designed to mimic an exam setting, whilst also allowing students to practise in their specific exam groups and orders.

### **When do the exam entries close?**

Entries close **SATURDAY 28TH APRIL**, however I encourage you to hand in your entries before this date in class or via email.

### **When is Payment Due?**

Full payment is due **SATURDAY 28TH APRIL**

### **What if I have anything else to ask?**

Please feel free to contact Miss Alanna at [dancedesires@gmail.com](mailto:dancedesires@gmail.com) or Janine at [janinebentley-minns@bigpond.com](mailto:janinebentley-minns@bigpond.com)