



CLASSICAL Ballet CANBERRA

WELCOME TO DANCE – 2025

We are delighted to welcome you to the new dance year!

Please find below some useful reminders and answers to FAQs. Do not hesitate to contact me should you have any further questions: helen@balletcanberra.com.au

We look forward to seeing you in class!

Best wishes,
Helen

Ballet Canberra Portal

[Our portal](#) contains all up-to-date information about classes. Time-sensitive and personal information will be emailed to you directly, but the portal is a readily available reference point for all other information.

Notices, including important fee information, policies and our uniform lists, are available on the portal under: Info > Documents and Files > Shared Files.

Your account may be accessed at any time via the portal, reminders will also be emailed to families in the week prior to the commencement of term. There is a handy Credit Card payment function within the portal itself, alternatively, you may pay with cash at Reception, or via Bank Transfer (our bank account information will be noted on your invoice).

The portal has a calendar page where you can see your dancer's weekly class schedule and other studio events, an online store where you may order uniform items, and pages where teachers will upload music for practice from time to time. Note that you must be [signed in to the portal](#) prior to accessing the store, calendar, files and information.

Reception

Reception is open Tuesday to Friday, 3:30pm to 6:00pm and on Saturdays from 8:30am to 11:30am. During these hours our Receptionist, Penny Garner, will attend to fittings for new and second-hand uniform items and accept other payments.

Term Dates

Please find here our 2025 term dates. These are also noted in the [calendar on our portal](#).

- Term 1 Saturday 8th February to Friday 11th April
Public holiday: no dance classes on Monday 10th March (Canberra Day)
- Term 2 Monday 28th April to Saturday 5th July
Public holiday: no dance classes on Monday 9th June (King's Birthday weekend)
- Term 3 Monday 21st July to Saturday 27th September
- Term 4 Monday 13th October to Saturday 13th December (dependent on show dates)



Summer Classes

Bookings are still open (via the portal) for our weekend of Summer Classes. These classes will take place across three days, running on 31st January/1st and 2nd February. The classes are open to dancers in Grade 2 and above and are aimed at giving dancers a head-start on their fitness and exam readiness in the 2025 school year. We are delighted to welcome Matthew Slattery to our studio to teach Classical and Contemporary Masterclasses as a part of our Summer schedule.

Teachers and Staffing

We have two very exciting additions to our teaching team in 2025.

Brooke Crowe was a student of Miss Helen's for 11 years before training at McDonald College then completing full-time classical training at the Australian Conservatoire of Ballet in Melbourne and training in commercial dance and performing arts at Industry Dance (also in Melbourne). Brooke has had an international career, performing in the UK and later living in the USA where she performed as a Leading Artist for Princess Cruises before working at their Los Angeles Headquarters as a Project Dance Supervisor. On returning to Australia, Brooke trained as a Pilates instructor and has worked as a studio manager at several top Pilates studios on the Gold Coast. Brooke will be leading our Vocational conditioning programme and working with our Performance Groups and soloists. Brooke will also be taking bookings for private reformer Pilates lessons at our studios.





We are also very excited to welcome Matthew Slattery as a regular Guest Teacher in 2025. Matthew first danced with Rosie O'Sullivan before training at Brent Street then moving to New York to study at the Joffrey Ballet School. He danced with the Boston Ballet and the Royal New Zealand Ballet before returning to Sydney where he is now working as a freelance performer, choreographer and teacher. Matthew will be teaching at our Summer Classes on the 31st January and will be travelling to Canberra to take Advanced classes and run choreographic workshops throughout the year.

Miss Lorraine has decided to step away from regular teaching in 2025, but we do hope to see her return every now and then for guest teaching and coaching classes. We wish her all the very best and thank her enormously for helping us throughout the transition in 2024.

Dance Exams

All dancers in Pre-Grade 1 and above will be considered for a Classical examination or assessment with the ISTD, RAD or Royal Ballet School, provided they diligently attend all recommended ballet classes, are available for coaching classes each day in the second week of the July holidays (14th to 18th July) and take part in any other necessary coaching classes and rehearsals in the lead up to exam day.



ISTD and RAD exams will take place in Term 3. Alternatively, we can enter candidates in RAD sessions in Sydney or Melbourne, or, as with the Royal Ballet School assessments, submit filmed entries at any time.

ISTD Modern exams and Jazz Medals will be offered alongside the Classical ISTD session in Term 3. Our Tap classes will begin to learn the Glenn Wood Tap syllabus in Term 1, with a view to being able to take the fun yet challenging Glenn Wood Tap exams later in the year if they wish.

Uniform Fittings and Sale of Second-hand Items

Penny and I will be at the studio on Friday 7th February from 3:30 to 6pm to welcome dancers for uniform fittings. Uniform items that have been purchased via our [online store](#) will be available for collection on this day, and thereafter during regular Reception opening hours.

Uniform leotards are available at a discount via our [online store](#), colours for 2025 are as follows:

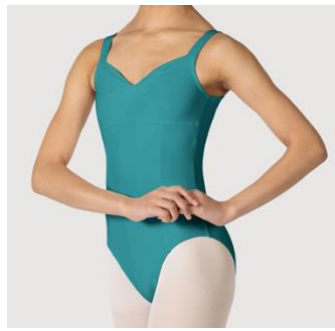
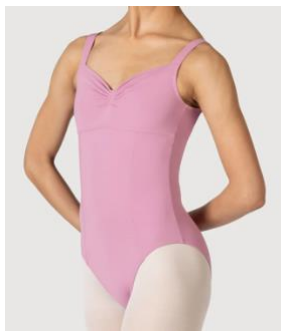
Pale Blue Skirted Leotard: Pre-School, Kindergarten & Primary

Dusty Pink Leotard: Pre-Grade 1, Grade 1 & Grade 2

Teal Leotard: Grade 3, 4, 5 & 6 (CBCC purple leotards are acceptable in class until grown/worn out)

Navy Leotard: Vocational exam candidates

Grade 6 and Vocational dancers may wear any suitable, plain- coloured, well-fitting leotard in class.



Buns/hairstyles

It is imperative that all dancers have their hair secured in a tidy ballet bun (or if very short, a headband) in all classes so that they can focus properly on their dance work.

Taking the time to make [a tidy ballet bun](#) for dance class helps your child to understand that attention to detail is important.



Change room arrangements

Students are asked to wear street clothes over their dance uniforms before and after dance classes, and to use our dedicated change rooms to change into their dancewear.

We are used to seeing children in dance clothing; however, the general public are not. Covering dancewear with street clothes is the best way to deter unwanted attention. We kindly ask that fathers who change their children please use what is marked as the boys change room.

Social Media

We run studio pages on both [Facebook](#) and [Instagram](#). If you do not wish for your child to appear on our website or on our social media sites, please ensure that you have completed the [photo opt-out form on the portal](#).

We politely ask students and parents not to regularly contact teachers via private messaging services on social media platforms. Please use email wherever possible, or the dedicated Performance Group messaging groups (if applicable).



Catch-up lessons

We pleased to offer two catch-up lessons for each child per term: this does not include classes missed on the Public Holidays noted in our calendar. Classes may be made up with any age-appropriate class; please email us for further information and guidance on the most suitable class to join.

Lost property

Lost property is kept in the boxes in the corridor near Reception. Please help us by checking for lost items regularly - unclaimed dance wear will be sold at Reception and street clothes will be donated to charity.