



# WELCOME TO DANCE!

## Welcome!

Welcome to dance! Thank you for choosing Smith's Dance Academy. We are so excited to have you and your dancer joining our dance family! We are looking forward to an exciting dance season. We hope this policy book will answer any questions as to why and how we do things the way that we do. You will find answers to a number of commonly asked questions. If there is anything that you or your child does not understand, please do not hesitate to ask us. This is the best way to get the correct answer and avoid the potential for misunderstanding.

Our objective is to provide all students with dance instruction that maximizes their individual potential in an environment that is fun and low stress. All students' progress at a different pace and it is important that you and your child are patient. Becoming frustrated will only hinder the learning process and it will no longer be fun. Each class will challenge the student, because without challenge, there is no sense of accomplishment. Although one student may progress faster than his/her friend, this is not to say that each dancer doesn't have talent...they all do.

It is very important that dancers practice on their own time. Class time is not enough. If a student comes to class with an understanding of what was taught the previous week, and is able to execute the movements correctly, then the class will be able to progress as a whole at a faster pace.

As teachers, our goal is not to make professional dancers of everyone, but to see each student learn, grow and progress each year. Not only do the students learn the art of dance, they learn concentration and discipline, how to take direction and to work with others. Then, at the end of the year, they come out on stage and put it all together at the recital. This is an accomplishment and source of pride for everyone involved, including the parents.

## Calendar

### **Dance Season Schedule**

There are 24 class weeks in the dance season including one week for our holiday open house and one week for class pictures, concluded with a year end recital. A tentative calendar for the season will be available at the beginning of the year in this booklet and on the web-site. An up to date calendar will be maintained on the web-site for your reference.

## Storm Days

If there is inclement weather cancellation notices will be posted on Facebook, announced via email, shared on CJ104 and our web-site. There are built in storm days at the end of the dance year in case we need to cancel due to weather conditions. If additional storm days need to be made up make-up classes will be scheduled at a later date.

## Parent Teacher / Professional Development Days

Dance class will be held on professional development days, council days and parent/teacher interview days.

## Holidays

Dance class is not held during Halloween, Remembrance Day, Family Day, Christmas and March breaks and the Easter holidays.

## Special Days

Halloween Week Oct 24-30: Dancers are invited to wear their halloween costumes to class.

Bring a Buddy Week Nov 6-9: Dancers are invited to bring a buddy to class with them this week to learn as fun partner dance.

Dance Hair Don't Care Week Dec 4-7: We want to see dancer's most creative ballerina bun, crazies hairdo or fanciest headwear! Let's dazzle!

Holiday Open House Week Dec 18-21: We are excited to celebrate the season with our dancers and their families! Open House info will be sent home in the Dec newsletter.

Character Week Jan 23-27: Dancers are invited to dress up as their favourite character this week! We can't wait to see all the stars from tv, music, movies, sports and more!

Love Dance Feb 12-15: Show us the love! Wear your favourite pink and red outfit, hearts encouraged!

SDA Spirit Week Mar 18-21: We want to see all your SDA gear and spirit in class this week. Dress up and show us your SDA pride!

Sparkle and Shine Week Apr 22-25: We want to see all our dancers shine! Dancers are encouraged to make up their own dances and show them off to their classmates and wear their shiniest, sparkliest outfits and last costumes.

Recital 2023 May 11: Our recital will be held May 11th at the McCain Community Theatre.

**SMITH'S DANCE ACADEMY 2023-2024 CLASS CALENDAR**

<b>Term 1</b>	MON	TUE	WED	THUR	<u><b>No Class Days</b></u>
<b>1</b>	Oct 16	Oct 17	Oct 18	Oct 19	Oct 31: Halloween
<b>2</b>	Oct 23	Oct 24	Oct 25	Oct 26	Nov 13: Remembrance Day
<b>3</b>	Oct 30	Nov 7	Nov 1	Nov 2	Dec 25-Jan 4: Holiday Break
<b>4</b>	Nov 6	Nov 14	Nov 8	Nov 9	Feb 19: Family Day
<b>5</b>	Nov 20	Nov 21	Nov 15	Nov 16	Mar 4-7: March Break
<b>6</b>	Nov 27	Nov 28	Nov 22	Nov 23	Apr 1: Easter
<b>Term 2</b>					Apr 4: No Classes
<b>1</b>	Dec 4	Dec 5	Nov 29	Nov 30	
<b>2</b>	Dec 11	Dec 12	Dec 6	Dec 7	<u><b>Special Events</b></u>
<b>3</b>	Dec 18	Dec 19	Dec 13	Dec 14	Oct 24-Oct 30: Halloween Week
<b>4</b>	Jan 8	Jan 9	Dec 20	Dec 21	
<b>5</b>	Jan 15	Jan 16	Jan 10	Jan 11	Nov 6-9: Bring a Buddy Week
<b>6</b>	Jan 22	Jan 23	Jan 17	Jan 18	
<b>Term 3</b>					Dec 4-7: Dance Hair Don't Care Week
<b>1</b>	Jan 29	Jan 30	Jan 24	Jan 25	Dec 18-21: Holiday Open House Week
<b>2</b>	Feb 5	Feb 6	Jan 31	Feb 1	
<b>3</b>	Feb 12	Feb 13	Feb 7	Feb 8	Jan 22-25: Character Week
<b>4</b>	Feb 26	Feb 20	Feb 14	Feb 15	
<b>5</b>	Mar 11	Feb 27	Feb 21	Feb 22	Feb 12-15: Love Dance Week
<b>6</b>	Mar 18	Mar 12	Feb 28	Feb 29	
<b>Term 4</b>					Mar 25-28: SDA Spirit Week
<b>1</b>	Mar 25	Mar 19	Mar 13	Mar 14	Apr 22-25: Sparkle & Shine Week
<b>2</b>	Wed Apr 3	Mar 26	Mar 20	Mar 21	
<b>3</b>	Apr 8	Apr 2	Mar 27	Mar 28	TBA - Picture Week
<b>4</b>	Apr 15	Apr 9	Apr 10	Apr 11	
<b>5</b>	Apr 22	Apr 16	Apr 17	Apr 18	
<b>6</b>	Apr 29	Apr 23	Apr 24	Apr 25	
<b>Potential Storm Days</b> ( if needed)	May 6	Apr 30, May 7	May 1, 8	May 2, 9	
<b>Tentative Recital Date</b>	May 11	May 11	May 11	May 11	

## **Class Time!**

### **Class Etiquette**

Please do bathroom breaks before arriving at the studio.

No gum or candy in class please, it is a choking hazard.

### **Spectators**

To minimize distractions and maximize the amount of time spent on instruction, spectators are not permitted during class, however we understand that parents want to see how their children progress. Parents and family will be invited to observe during the last 5 minutes of the each class. The teacher will open the door when the students are ready to show their accomplishments of the day.

### **Dress Code**

We request that all dancers wear appropriate dancewear for class. Bodysuits, exercise pants, tank tops and t-shirts are suitable, no jeans or jean shorts.

Long hair must be worn up, buns are encouraged.

Tights, leotards, shorts and many other dance wear options are available for purchase at the studio

### **Shoes**

Dancers studying ballet, contemporary, musical theatre, lyrical and/or jazz will need black ballet slippers or jazz shoes.

Dancers studying tap will need black tap shoes.

Dancers studying hip hop will need clean indoor sneakers or black ballet slippers or jazz shoes.

Dancers do not need to have shoes for the first class. If you do not have your shoes yet , please wear clean indoor sneakers to class.

For safety reasons , dancers cannot dance in sock feet.

Please ensure you label all your dancers shoes with their name so we can return any misplaced shoes to their owners.

Please do not purchase pink/nude shoes as dancers cannot wear them for the recital or class pictures.

We have new shoes available for purchase at the studio for all dance styles. Please email [amanda@smithdanceacademy.com](mailto:amanda@smithdanceacademy.com) to arrange a fitting appointment. We cannot accommodate fittings during class time.

### **Teachers**

Teachers should not be interrupted during classes.

If you have any questions/concerns about classes please contact the director.

## **Assistants**

Assistants are sometimes present during class. They help to line up the dancers, keep them focused on the dancing, encourage and provide assistance with shoes and emergency bathroom breaks. Dancers interested in becoming an assistant may fill out an application on the web-site: [www.smithdanceacademy.com](http://www.smithdanceacademy.com)

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## **Communication & Contact**

### **Newsletters**

Newsletters will be sent out at the first of each month and at any other time needed by your preferred method as indicated on your dancer's registration form.

Newsletters are also posted on the website [www.smithdanceacademy.com](http://www.smithdanceacademy.com) and the SDA families Facebook group.

### **Website**

A Website is available for your information. Through the Website you may access updates, newsletters, updated calendars, this policy book and much more.

### **Facebook**

Visit our Facebook page for up to the minute information. Your registration confirmation email will also include a link to join our private Facebook group where you will find all cancellations, newsletters and any other info first.

### **E-mail**

E-mail is often the fastest way to reach us: [amanda@smithdanceacademy.com](mailto:amanda@smithdanceacademy.com)

### **Phone**

As I am often in class, many times you will reach my voicemail, please leave a message and I will return it as quickly as possible. 325-2707

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## **Registration, Payments & Withdrawal from Classes**

### **Payments**

Please submit your payment as quickly as possible. If we do not need to collect payments during class it leaves more time to dance!

E Transfers may be sent to : [amanda@smithdanceacademy.com](mailto:amanda@smithdanceacademy.com) Please include your dancers first and last name in the comments.

Payments can be made at the studio via cash and credit cards or on the web-site via paypal.

SMITH'S DANCE ACADEMY 2023-2024 FALL SESSION FEES & TUITION			
	1 Payment for Full Session (24 weeks - due by Oct 16) <i>Pay ahead and save 15%!</i>	OR	4 Term Payments (6 weeks / term due by: Oct 16, Nov 29, Jan 24, Mar 13)
Registration Fee (one/family)	\$25.00		\$25.00
30 Minute Class Tuition	\$200.00		\$58.00
15 Minute Class Tuition	\$100.00		\$29.00
Multi Class Discounts	2nd 30 minute class 5% off (applies across family members)		
	3rd or more 30 minute class 10% off (applies across family members)		
Costumes fees:	Costume fees for each class will be announced on Oct 15th and must be paid in full prior to Nov 15th. We will make every efforts to minimize costume fees and use the same costume for multiple classes wherever possible. The maximum costume fee /class will be \$95 including tax.		
***All prices include HST***			

## Withdrawal from Classes / Trial Period

We hope your dancer enjoys dance class. There will be a 2 week trial period at the start of the first term. If for some reason your dancer decides to withdraw, please notify us prior to the third week of class. Notification within the trial period gives another dancer the chance to enrol. If during the trial period a dancer decides to discontinue taking dance, they will receive a refund on any remaining classes for the term. After the trial period dancers will be deemed to be enrolled for the term, and responsible for payment of the full term's tuition fees .

There will be no trial period for terms 2, 3 and 4. Once the term begins there will be no refunds issued for the remainder of the classes in that term.

Registration fees are non-refundable.

Costume fees are non -refundable after Nov 15th.

Any dancer who withdraws prior to the first class will be charged the registration fee.

## NSF Fees

There will be a \$35 charge applied to all NSF checks.

## **Late Fees**

A 5% late fee will be charged at the beginning of each term on overdue accounts, until all overdue amounts have been paid. Invoices will be emailed out and a reminder email will be sent to all parents 1 week prior to the next term's tuition payment due date.

Any dancers whose fees are paid late in the previous dance year may be asked to pay their entire class fees in full at the beginning of the session to avoid late payments occurring in the upcoming dance year.

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## **Recital**

We are excited to conclude the dance season with a year end recital. Each class will perform 1 dance in the recital.

## **Costumes**

Costumes for the recital will be chosen by the director and purchased by the student. Costumes are purchased in November. This gives us the biggest selection of costumes to choose from and find the most budget friendly options for our dance families, it also ensures costumes will arrive in time for photos. As the recital dates approach, we can concentrate on dancing, not costumes and pictures. Costume sizes will be determined based on measurements taken by the teacher.

## **Performance Policy**

No dancer with an outstanding balance will be permitted to perform in the recital(s).

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## **Additional Classes & Services**

### **Dance Company**

Dance Company is a competitive dance team that participates at dance conventions, and performs at competitions and festivals. Since this is an extra class, extra fees are charged and additional costumes must be purchased. As well, all Dance Company dancers must be enrolled in a ballet class. There is a high degree of responsibility and a substantial time commitment placed on the student to prepare for competitions. Dance Company members work hard all year round preparing for competitions and performances and must have above-average dedication and drive, for this is a very demanding and time-consuming activity. They must be able to learn very quickly and accept criticism. Dance Company dancers are "ambassadors" for Smith's Dance Academy and are expected to maintain a high standard of behaviour and professionalism at all events in which they participate. Dance Company is not only a commitment for the students, but for the parents as well. There are recitals, rehearsals, conventions etc to be paid for and transportation to be arranged.

For more information and audition dates please see the Dance Company page on the web-site.

## **Private Lessons**

Private lessons may be available upon request. Please contact the director for scheduling and availability.

## **Studio Rentals**

The studio may be available for rentals upon request. Please contact the director for scheduling and availability.

## **Birthday Parties**

Let us help your dancer have the best party of the year! And best of all we do all the set-up and clean up , so you really get to enjoy the party. Birthday party package information and booking is available on the website.

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## **Other**

### **Bullying**

Smith's Dance Academy has a zero tolerance policy on bullying. A dancer who deliberately makes fun of or hurts another person while at Smith's Dance Academy will not be allowed to return for the remainder of the dance year, and no refunds will be issued for remaining classes, costume fee or registration fees. A second offence will result in a permanent ban.

### **Removal from Class**

Smith's Dance Academy reserves the right to remove any dancer at any time, whose conduct , or whose guardian's conduct , in the opinion of Smith's Dance Academy is considered disruptive, in or out of the academy.

Thank you for choosing to have your child dance with Smith's Dance Academy. I am looking forward to an exciting dance year!

Amanda Boone- Director

325-2707

[amanda@smithdanceacademy.com](mailto:amanda@smithdanceacademy.com)