

Volar

DANCE CENTRE



2021 HANDBOOK

OUR MISSION

A WORLD OF DANCE

We would like to take this opportunity to say thank you for choosing Volar Dance Centre!

Our mission as dance educators is to teach students a strong work ethic, respect for all whilst instilling fun and a love for dance to last a lifetime. We strive to create an artistic educational environment that is professional, positive, beneficial, exciting and fulfilling for everyone.

Please read through this handbook to familiarise yourself with all that VDC has to offer.



2021 TERM DATES

PLEASE NOTE THE FOLLOWING TERM DATES

TERM 1

Monday 1st February -
Thursday 1st April

TERM 2

Monday 19th April -
Friday 25th June

TERM 3

Monday 12th July -
Friday 17th September

TERM 4

Monday 4th October -
2021 Showcase dates TBA

Please note the studio will not be open on the following Public Holidays:

Labour Day - 8th March

Anzac Day - 25th April

Queen's Birthday Monday - 14th June

Cup Day - Tuesday 2nd November



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STUDIO POLICIES

UPON ENROLLING AT VDC PLEASE MAKE SURE YOU THOROUGHLY READ THE POLICIES OF ENROLMENT STIPULATED ON THE ENROLMENT FORM. BY SIGNING THE ENROLMENT FORM YOU ARE AGREEING TO ADHERE TO THESE VDC POLICIES.

RISK

Dance classes can involve risk of personal injury. While VDC takes all reasonable care in conduct of its classes, it accepts no responsibility for injury cause during classes or while participants are at or near the studio. Parents/Guradians are responsible for ensuring that students are physically and mentally fit for participation.

too often. Senior students are expected to arrive 15 minutes prior to class to ensure they are fully prepared.

Under no circumstance are students allowed to arrive or leave the studio in only their dancewear. Students *MUST* wear either their VDC tracksuit, onesie or appropriate clothing over their leotards.

ARRIVING

In an effort to make sure that students are ready for class on time, we strongly suggest arriving 5-10 minutes before the class is scheduled to begin. This will give students enough time to use the rest room, put the proper shoes on etc. Students arriving more than 10 minutes late to class will be required to sit and observe rather than participate in class - avoiding possible injury from missing the allocated stretching segment of the class. This stretching segment is to ensure the prevention of any injury from occurring. We do understand that circumstances may arise where a student is unable to be on time, but please try and not to let this happen

Dance shoes are strictly *NOT* to be worn outside the studio! This will not only wear and damage dance shoes quicker, but will also walk dirt and stones onto our dance floor.

PICK UP

No student is to leave the studio unaccompanied. The studio car park can be very busy around drop off and pick up times. It can also be a very dark street in the winter. Therefore, all students are required to be picked up by an adult inside the studio waiting area.

Parents must collect their child no later than 10 minutes after class has finished. This is to prevent students being left unsupervised for long lengths of time.



HYGIENE & GROOMING

Discipline in dance comes in many forms, and the way one presents themselves is important. As students can often work in large groups, we ask for the consideration for all and that every dancer is wearing deodorant and that dance uniforms are washed after each use.

how to do this correctly please let us know as we are always happy to show you! In addition, tights and shoes must always be clean.

Students *MUST* make sure their hair is always in a slick, correct ballet bun *(If anyone needs any assistance on*

Please note that jewellery of any type including Fitbits are never to be worn to class as they can be dangerous to oneself and fellow dancers.

VDC takes no responsibility for personal property brought into the building.



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ATTENDANCE

Please endeavour to make sure that students attend every class as good attendance is an important part of a child's success in dance. We do understand that situations arise that may prevent this and if a student is going to be absent then a parent **MUST** notify the studio before the commencement of that class. If a student falls ill please notify the studio as soon as convenient.

If a class is running and a student is not able to attend for personal reasons or illness there will be no make-up lesson offered. Make-up lessons will only be offered if the studio or teacher cancels the class.

RESPECT

VDC promotes a welcoming and inclusive environment for all. Students and families are expected to show respect and kindness to all students and staff members of VDC at all times.

We strive for all students and their families to feel comfortable at all times at the studio, and in doing so we ask that all members show respect for the space that has been provided for the dancers. This includes picking up of rubbish, placing belongings in bags and allocated lockers provided, never bringing chewing gum into the building and only ever having water in their water bottles.

WATCHING CLASS

For parents, enrolling a child in dance is such an exciting time – a moment we too cherish as a studio. We understand that in this time you may wish to watch class and ensure that VDC is the right fit for your family and that your child is being well looked after. As a studio we ask that once you are confident with being a part of the VDC family, that parents are aware that classes are only open to viewing by invitation. To support this, we run open weeks throughout the year which provides parents an opportunity to watch classes and see the developments and growth of their dancers.

For all other times, we ask that parents drop their dancers off in the waiting area before their classes.

Beyond learning to dance, we endeavour to help dancers mature into independent and confident people. While we understand a parent's curiosity towards the development of their child, we strongly believe this will promote each student's growth and sense of autonomy allowing them to be completely focused on their classes. It is vitally important that students learn how to regulate themselves and not have to rely on parents to motivate and guide them.

OPEN WEEK 2020

Open week will run in 2021 from Monday 3rd May - Saturday 8th May. All classes will be open for viewing from parents and family. Please note performance team rehearsals and private lessons are not open for viewing. *Dates are subject to change with the confirmation of 2021 exam dates.*

SHOWCASE

At the conclusion of each year, VDC performs an annual showcase. Performing in the showcase is optional, but as showcase levies are a part of term fees, it is vital that notification is made to VDC staff at time of enrolment if a dancer will not be participating in the end of year show as fees are non-refundable.

We do strongly encourage all students to take part as it's always such a fun way to end the year!

All students who choose to participate in the end of year show will be expected to attend all extra rehearsals in Term 4 including Photo Day (November) and all rehearsals at the theatre.

Please Note: Purchasing of DVD & Photos for the showcase are optional and come at an extra cost

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OUR CLASSES

CLASSICAL BALLET (RAD)

Ballet is the basis for dance. It provides the technical scaffolding required to produce strong and athletic dancers and is recommended for all. Exams are optional but are available for all students aged 5 +

MINI BALLET

This class is specifically designed for young dancers. This class will enable students to build confidence and social skills. Mini ballet incorporates the fundamentals of ballet and enables the littlest of dancers to express their love for movement and music in a fun and creative environment. Mini ballet is offered to students who are aged 2.5 to 4 years

READY SET DANCE

Ready Set Dance is a new program to VDC for 2021. Just like the hit TV Show RSD is a one hour combo class of Jazz, Tap, Hip Hop, Singing and Music. This class aims to develop the three 'C's - Coordination, Creativity and Confidence. The exercises are all designed to help preschoolers achieve developmental milestones. The program caters for children ages 2 - 5 years.

CONTEMPORARY

Contemporary dance borrows techniques from ballet and many modern styles of the 20th century. Contemporary dance encourages natural, spontaneous movement and personal interpretation. Contemporary classes are available for students aged 6 +

JAZZ

Jazz is a high paced technical form of dance. It helps develop musicality, co-ordination and flexibility. Teachers use music that is up-beat and age appropriate. Jazz classes are available for students aged 5 +

HIP HOP

Hip Hop is a current popular form of dance that is based on 'street style'. VDC teaches the stylistic requirements of popping, locking and breaking to connect students with the groove and rhythms of the music. Teachers choose up-beat and age appropriate music for each class. Hip Hop classes are available for students 7 +

TAP

Tap incorporates the use of the feet as a percussive instrument. Dancers develop co-ordination, musicality and rhythmic awareness through this exciting dance style. Tap classes are available for students aged 5 +

UNIFORM

ALL STUDENTS ARE REQUIRED TO WEAR THE FOLLOWING UNIFORM.
ALL UNIFORM MUST BE PURCHASED THROUGH THE STUDIO ONLINE SHOP.

ARRIVE PREPARED

Students are expected to arrive for class on time with the correct uniform and shoes. Teachers may excuse a student from class if they are not correctly dressed.

HAIR

Hair must be secured in a slick bun for ALL classes. Bangs must be cut above the eyebrows or pinned back so that the dancers vision is not obscured and hair is not slapping the face when performing turns. A slick back pony tail is acceptable for Hip Hop class only.

JEWELLERY

Jewellery must be removed before class - this includes watches and Fitbits. Only stud earrings are allowed - NO dangling or hoop earrings. In addition, NO earrings are permitted for performances or exams.

DANCE SHOES

Dance shoes must be worn for the studio use only. Dance shoes worn traveling from the car to the studio are *NOT* allowed in the studio as small traces of dirt and grease can cause extensive damage to studio floors. It also makes it unsanitary for dancers performing floor exercise during class.

** Shoes may be purchased from Dance Nation - shop 2/70 Douglas Parade, Williamstown Vic 3016, Australia. Please notify them that you are a student of VDC so they may assist you accordingly.*

WATER BOTTLES

Spill-proof water bottles are permitted into all classes, but must contain water *ONLY*. We recommend dancers labeling their names clearly on drink bottles and to keep the environment in mind by using a re-useable bottle.

FEMALE UNIFORM

MINI BALLET

Purple Leotard & Skirt (*Bloch*)
 Split Sole Ballet Shoes (*Bloch*)
 Tights or Ballet Socks

CLASSICAL BALLET

RAD Leotard
 Tights or Ballet Socks
(Tights mandatory for students aged 10+)
 Leather Split Sole Ballet Shoes (*Bloch*)
 National Shoes (*Exam students only*)
 National Skirt (*Exam Students only*)
 RAD Belt (*Exam students only*)

JAZZ, TAP AND CONTEMPORARY

VDC Purple Leotards
 Black Dance Shorts (*Bloch*)
 Tan Jazz Shoes (*Capizo -NO LACES*)
 Tan Tap Shoes (Small heel only)

READY SET DANCE

RSD T-Shirt or RSD Dress
 Tap Shoes
 Jazz or Ballet Shoes

HIP HOP (MALE & FEMALE)

Any sweat pants or active wear
 T-shirt or Singlet (NO Crop Tops)
 INDOOR running shoes
 NO Jeans, Skirts, Dresses, Bare Feet, Sandals, Boots or black soled shoes.
 You are NOT required to purchase a uniform for Hip Hop, but you may be asked to provide undergarments or shoes for our end of year show.

MALE UNIFORM

MINI BALLET

Navy Blue Dance Shorts (*Bloch*)
 Bonds or equivalent singlet - White
 Ballet Shoes - White (*Bloch*)
 White Ballet Socks

CLASSICAL BALLET

White Male Leotard (*Bloch*)
 Navy Blue Dance Shorts (*Bloch*)
 White Ballet Socks
 White Ballet Shoes (*Bloch*)
 National Shoes (*Exam students only*)

JAZZ, TAP AND CONTEMPORARY

Black Dance Shorts (*Bloch*)
 Black Singlet (*Bonds or similar*)
 Tan Jazz Shoes (*Capizo -NO LACES*)
 Tan Tap Shoes (*Small heel only*)

READY SET DANCE

RSD T-Shirt or RSD Dress
 Tap Shoes
 Jazz or Ballet Shoes

OPTIONAL UNIFORM

Studio Tracksuit (*Leggings & Jacket*)
 Studio Onesie
 Crossover
 VDC Puffer Vests

*Please see your uniform order list in your folder for current prices.
 (All prices are subject to change)*

All uniform is available to Purchase via our website shop

CLASS FEES

PLEASE SEE BELOW FOR ALL OUR FEES. A REMINDER THAT GST WILL BE ADDED TO FINAL INVOICES.

On enrolment all families are required to pay a \$60 enrolment/insurance fee. This is paid once a year and is non-refundable.

Please note that \$60 is paid per family NOT per student.

Fees INCLUDE all performance levies. This is so that you will not be asked for extra payment for costumes at the end of year showcase or payment for dress rehearsal at the theatre. If enrolling AFTER Term 1 your showcase levy will be divided over the terms your are enrolled.

CLASSES	COST
Mini Ballet	\$175 + GST
Ready Set Dance	\$185 + GST
1 Class per week	\$185 + GST
2 Classes per week	\$335 + GST
3 Classes per week	\$460 + GST
4 Classes per week	\$560 + GST
5 Classes per week	\$590 + GST
6 Classes per week	\$640 + GST
7 Classes per week	\$675 + GST
8 Classes per week	\$765 + GST
9 Classes per week	\$855 + GST
10 Classes per week	\$900 + GST

A 5% discount will be given to siblings on class fees *ONLY*

PAYMENT PLANS

At VDC we encourage all dancers to be as involved in the studio as much as possible. As such, we understand that sometimes having a lump sum due 4 times throughout the year can be difficult - therefore we do offer payment plans.

Fees can be made via *Weekly, Fortnightly and Monthly* payment installments. Payments *MUST* start on the 1st of January each year and run through until the 31st of December

Please note by signing the Enrolment form that you are agreeing to pay payments on time, and that if your dancer chooses not to return to class throughout the term you will still be liable to pay the remainder of the Term. If payment falls behind by 2 installments your payment plan will be cancelled and you will be expected to pay all fees remaining.

On enrolment you will receive an email with your payment plan, please note you need to set up this direct debit via your bank yourself.

FEE POLICY

All VDC Fees including enrolment fee is non refundable.

Term fees are to be paid 2 weeks prior to the start of Term 1. They are then to be paid by the end of each Term for the following Term throughout the year.

If fees go unpaid without prior explanation a 10% late fee will be charged for each week unpaid.

If chosen to not to return to class during the year, a parent must notify the studio before Term fees are issued, otherwise they will be liable to pay any invoice that is sent.





PERFORMANCE TEAM

PERFORMANCE TEAM IS A WONDERFUL OPPORTUNITY FOR DANCERS TO LEARN THE ART OF COMPETITION, BECOME MORE EXPERIENCED ON STAGE AND LEARN TO WORK WITHIN A TEAM.

Performance Team is optional at VDC and we encourage all students to ask about joining our team. Please ask for a Performance Team enrolment form from one of our staff if interested.

In order to be eligible to take part in our team you must have 2 years of ballet training prior to joining (*this can be at VDC or at another studio*).

For new dancers to VDC, our teachers may request to see you perform in class for a Term to see where you may fit within our team before enrolling you into the team for the year.

In order to take part in VDC's Performance Team for both group and solo work at competitions, you **MUST** be undertaking the following classes:

- 2 BALLET CLASSES PER WEEK
- TAKE PART IN EXAMS
- TAKE PART IN ALL WORKSHOPS CONDUCTED AT VDC
- ALL HOLIDAY PROGRAMS INCLUDING SUMMER SCHOOL

(Solo dancers must be in a weekly class in order to be eligible for a solo in that genre ie. If you are thinking you would like a contemporary solo you must then be taking a contemporary class each week)

CHOREOGRAPHY

The choreography dancers learn in Solo's and in Troupes is strictly owned by the studio. If dancers choose to leave VDC they are **NOT** to compete at competitions with VDC choreography.

Once dancers have learnt a piece of choreography, then it is the job of the student to remember the choreography. A tremendous amount of time and commitment from our choreographers goes into each of our routines and it is **NOT** a student's place to intentionally change any step that a teacher has given.

If any student is found to have changed their routines at competitions, they will no longer be given the opportunity to take part as a member of the VDC Performance Team.

POLICIES

By signing the enrolment form and paying the enrolment fee you are agreeing to the following policies:

- I understand the schedule/obligations to attend competitions and extra rehearsals when necessary
- I understand that students need to have a 95% attendance at rehearsals and all classes throughout the year
- I understand that private lessons must be paid for at each lesson to the front desk and that all lessons are to be paid for whether or not the lesson is attended
- this includes illness, holidays and all school activities (camps, school concerts)

• I understand that private lessons do not need to be paid for if the studio is closed (public holidays etc.)

• I understand that I must contact the studio to organise a make-up lesson

• I understand that as a performance team member (soloist or troupe member) that I am expected to participate in all workshops and holiday programs at VDC

• I understand that I must always seek permission to participate in all workshops, intensive and performances outside of VDC

• I understand that as a student and as a parent I will always represent VDC in the best possible way

WORKSHOPS

VDC will continue to hold Workshops throughout 2021.

Students must **ALWAYS** seek permission to participate in any workshop, performance or intensive of any type outside of VDC. In 2021 we ask that students only participate in a maximum of 2 workshops/ classes and 1 performance opportunity outside of VDC with given permission.

Students are **NOT** to participate in anything outside of VDC in Term 4, this includes comeptitions.

Students who choose to take part (with permission) in a weekly extension program outside of VDC will not be permitted to take part in any performances or workshops outside of VDC. These classes cannot hinder a students participation at the studio.



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COMPETITIONS

Students are expected to be at *ALL* competitions when taking part in troupes.

Soloists are encouraged to take part in at least 4 competitions over the year and *SHOULD NOT* compete in more than 6 in a year.

As VDC classes take place on weekends, we do not encourage students to enter competitions that run on weekends. As such, students *WILL NOT* be excused from any weekend classes at VDC (this includes Sunday workshops) in order to compete.

ALL competition entries **MUST** be approved **BEFORE** you enter, please email your requests.

Students are NOT to participate in ANY competitions in Term 4 2021

COMMUNICATION

It is expected that after EVERY competition parents email ash@voldancecentre.com with results **BEFORE** you place anything on social media, this includes emailing any photos of the dancers at competitions and their crit sheets.

UNIFORM

All Performance Team students are expected to have the required uniform items and it is mandatory to wear these items to ALL competitions.

- VDC BLACK LEOTARDS (*BLOCH*)
- BODY STOCKING (*OR CORRECT DANCE UNDERWEAR*)
- CORRECT SHOES FOR ALL TROUPES
- VDC TRACKSUIT

All available to purchase online via our website shop

EASTER SHOW 2020

In 2021 will return to putting on our annual Easter Show. Please pencil in the following date:

Sunday 28th March 2021

2021 TROUPE DATES

Due to the current climate, we are unsure of our 2021 Troupe Competitions, once we know what 2021 will look like for theatre reopenings we will endeavour to let everyone know which competitions to pencil in.

Confirmation of dates released soon.

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2021

TERM 1 HOLIDAYS
InMotion Performing Arts Challenge
(Troupes and All Solos Mandatory)
April - TBC

TERM 2 HOLIDAYS
TBA

WEEKEND TROUPES
TBA



PERFORMANCE TEAM FEES

\$220 + GST - Per Term (Includes 1 Body Conditioning class a week)

\$160 + GST - Per Term for 2nd Team (Includes 1 extra ballet class a week in a higher level when available)

\$35 + GST per Term per team costume fee (paid for 3 Terms only)

PRIVATE LESSON/DUO LESSON FEES

\$35 + GST per 30 minutes

\$50 + GST per 45 minutes

If you choose to pay cash for private lessons please *DO NOT* add the GST.

ALL private lesson money paid in cash *MUST* be paid to the front desk before the beginning of the lesson - *NOT* to the teacher.

CONTACT

WAYS TO CONTACT US AND STAY UP TO DATE WITH THE HAPPENINGS AT THE STUDIO!

WEBSITE

volardancecentre.com

UNIFORM SHOP

volardancecentre.com/shop

EMAIL

roz@volardancecentre.com

(For all Accounts & General Enquiries)

ash@volardancecentre.com

(For enquires on Classes, Showcase, Exams, Competitions and Performance Team)

STUDIO PHONE

0421038185

INSTAGRAM

[instagram.com/volardancecentre/](https://www.instagram.com/volardancecentre/)

FACEBOOK

Facebook Page
[facebook.com/volardance/](https://www.facebook.com/volardance/)

Facebook group *(by request only)*
[facebook.com/groups/266373236739655/](https://www.facebook.com/groups/266373236739655/)