



Jayne A Coleman Academy of Dance

Online Classes - Summer Term

27th March 2020

Dear Parents and Pupils,

I have struggled in putting this letter together knowing that so many are facing difficult challenges right now. I am sure that many of you, like me, are taking things day by day. With this in mind I send this letter hoping that as the weeks progress the news improves, allowing us to return to some sort of normality. I am forever grateful to all the selfless, amazing key workers, many of whom are JACAD parents - you are the true heroes in this dreadful crisis. Thankyou!

I would also like to extend a huge thank you to the entire JACAD family. We have received many messages of support as we continue to navigate this difficult and troubling time - it has been wonderful to see so many parents and pupils come together, after making the very difficult decision to close the studios at Pinewood.

As you know, we very quickly investigated and implemented online classes to replace as much of our normal timetable as possible. Thank you to all the pupils who joined these classes for the last couple of weeks of term, and to my teachers, who have put in many, many hours both in the virtual classroom and behind the scenes in setting all of this up. It has not been easy but I know that it has absolutely been worthwhile - I am sure many of you agree that providing some sense of normality has been wonderful for the pupils, most of whom are no longer able to attend school or their other activities.

The current term ends on Saturday 28th March and summer term commences on Monday 20th April. Although the situation is changing daily, it is almost certain that some elements of lockdown and social distancing will still be in place after the Easter Holidays. We will therefore continue to offer online classes until we are able to reopen our doors - hopefully sooner rather than later.

I would like to take this opportunity to outline the benefits of continuing to operate the school in this way.

- Our classes are live, they are not pre-recorded or delivered in a follow along format.
- We replicate what we do in the studio by giving each individual pupil critique and feedback to build on their technique weekly to enable them to improve over the term.

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- The online classroom is two-way - meaning pupils can interact with the teachers to help understand corrections.
- All our teachers are qualified and experienced, a very important factor when offering online classes, ensuring each pupil is working safely and within their capabilities, and not copying along without feedback.
- The pupils will be able to maintain a level of technique that will stand them in good stead for returning to dance at the studios. This is especially important for the dancers who have exams, competitions and so forth to look forward to, but all pupils will continue to see progress and achievement if they continue to attend class.
- Due to the nature of the online classroom, pupils are able to see and talk to their friends at the beginning and end of class, and feel that they are still learning and socialising together.
- Continuing to dance with JACAD means supporting our hard-working teachers to continue to earn a living, and keeping the school going until we can open our doors once more.

In order to facilitate these classes at a more affordable rate for everyone, I will be including a 25% discount off the total invoice amount for every pupil who continues to attend online classes. This will be adjusted back to normal rates should we reopen at the studios, from that point onwards. Invoices will be issued over the Easter Break and payment can be split to help with financing. All payments should be made by bank transfer and details will be advised on the invoice. These are uncertain times for everyone, so please feel free to contact me.

In addition, we will be offering some exciting workshops during the Easter Holidays that we know the children will enjoy! Watch this space. Exam classes will continue as scheduled, and we will also make up the classes missed due to studio closure.

We will be providing updated terms and conditions for our online classes moving forward which I will ask all parents to read. Please be aware that participation in the online classes assumes consent of the JACAD Online Lessons Policy.

In closing, I would like to thank you once again for your continued support. Please know we are always here should you need to discuss anything further.

Stay safe everyone and lots of JACAD love,

Kind regards,

Jayne Coleman