



# Jayne A Coleman Academy of Dance

02/11/2020

## JACAD COVID-19 Lockdown Update

Dear JACAD Parents & Pupils,

As you will all be aware, the government have announced a new nationwide lockdown from Thursday this week. Dance studios are listed among the businesses that must close, and we are saddened to announce that this means we must revert back to an online-only teaching system for the duration of the lockdown, starting from Thursday Nov 5.

We have been so delighted to have been back in the studio for the last several weeks and it has been wonderful to see our pupils getting back into the swing of things. Although this lockdown period is an unfortunate setback, we remain hopeful that we will be back in the studio as soon as we are able to.

The government have advised a 28-day lockdown period at this stage so we will almost be at the end of term when the lockdown is lifted. I therefore anticipate that we will complete the final few days of term in the studio and also hope to offer some extra studio classes and workshops to finish the term on a positive note before Christmas. We remain adaptable to any further announcements from the government and we will keep everyone updated with our plans as we go.

Many of you may be wondering about examinations. Again, I hope if we can reopen for a short time in December, we may be able to offer intensive extra exam classes and prepare video submissions before the year ends, or at the very least have some extra preparation ready to complete exams ASAP in 2021. I will keep everyone updated but rest assured we want to provide these opportunities if we are able to.

Those of you who were with the school in the previous shut-down period will be aware of how our online class system works, however for the benefit of our new pupils and to refresh your memories I ask that everyone read the following information carefully.

Although our timetable will remain mostly the same as it has been this Autumn term, there are some minor changes so I ask you to please refer to the attached Online Timetable and check for any amendments that affect you or your children's classes. We have elected to keep the timetable with five-minute intervals between most classes to ensure time for teachers to log off and on between classes, with a few exceptions. We will NOT be returning to the previous Online Class Timetable from the last lockdown.

For each class you will find a dedicated Zoom link on the JACAD website Parents Dashboard:

<https://jacad.co.uk/parents/onlineclasses/>

Password is **lovetodance**

Just before your class is due to start, you can click on the appropriate link to join the class online. If you have not already done so, download Zoom on your laptop or device in advance.

I direct you also to please refresh yourselves on our Online Lessons Policy (<https://jacad.co.uk/online-lessons-policy/>) which covers key points including clearing a safe space to dance free of distractions, wearing uniform for all lessons, and displaying appropriate behaviour in class. Participation in our online classes assumes consent of this policy so I ask that everyone please read it in full.

With regards to our fees, due to increased hall hire fees, the investment in Covid-safe equipment and our recent window installation to improve ventilation (which was completed this week) I note that we are unable to offer any fee discount for the remainder of term.

I would like to thank everyone for your continued support of the school in what has been a very difficult year. While returning to the online class environment is another challenge we have to face, we are fortunate to have the infrastructure already in place to make it an easier transition this time. I know that our pupils will appreciate the opportunity to continue to dance safely throughout this lockdown period and I very much look forward to returning to the studio in December.

Kind regards,

*Jayne Coleman*