



# Jayne A Coleman Academy of Dance

30/12/2020

## JACAD COVID-19 Lockdown Update

Dear JACAD Parents & Pupils,

We hope you all have had a lovely Christmas and are safe and well.

As you will all be aware, the government has announced that we will remain in Tier 4 for the start of the New Year. Considering the seriousness of the rising COVID-19 cases, it will come as no surprise that Dance studios are listed among the businesses that must close. We fully agree that this is the best approach to ensure safety and protection for all! Whilst we would prefer to be conducting our classes in the studio, the well-being of our students and teachers must come first. The zoom on-line alternative allows us to continue dancing safely and offer our pupils the chance not to fall behind. Progress and focus are more important than ever at this time and we are keen to continue with our terms plans albeit initially on-line and hope the continuity will enable a seamless studio return in hopefully a few weeks.

Spring Term will therefore commence next Monday 4<sup>th</sup> January 2021 as planned and will continue on-line (Zoom) until such time we can return safely to the studio. Invoices for the Spring Term will be sent out over the next few days, along with details of how to pay. For those who prefer to pay by cash or cheque, this is not a problem, please contact me to arrange.

After discussion I am delighted to also let you know that our Exam extra classes and Exams scheduled for this term will also continue as planned. The exam dates may potentially need to be moved due to the current government restrictions and to give exam candidates studio time before any exam, however, we will continue with our extra exam classes online as scheduled, and I will update when changes occur. Rest assured we want to provide these opportunities to ensure focus and continuity for this term's exam pupils, and we will do our utmost to make sure they happen! Exam payments can be made via bacs but please make sure these are paid separately to the terms invoices clearly stating your Child's name and exam fee or classes. Payments should **not be made until the due date**. I am still also happy to receive cash or cheque, please contact me if this is your preferred method of payment.

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 our studio class times, 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.

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.

I would like to thank everyone for your continued support of the school in what has been an exceedingly 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 once again. 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 very soon.

In the meantime, from all of us at JACAD, we wish you all a positive, safe, peaceful 2021!

Happy New Year!

Kind regards,

*Jayne Coleman*

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