



FREQUENTLY ASKED QUESTIONS **AVALON PUBLIC SCHOOL DANCE GROUPS**

*Avalon Public School Dance Committee
February 2020*

How are the Avalon School Dance Groups selected?

Children are selected for the Avalon Public School Dance Groups according to their individual talents and skills and the nature of the choreography that has been devised by the dance teacher in charge. Only children in Yrs 2-6 are eligible for membership of a dance group. Auditions are held at school to determine the group. After an initial audition for any interested students, a pool of students is invited to a call back audition.

Who are the dance teachers for 2020?

Mrs Anne Henderson (Year 2/3 and 4/5) and Mrs Michelle Garrard (Year 5/6). Our dance teachers are classroom teachers with passion and expertise in dance. They fill their role as a dance educator for their dance group as a voluntary, extra-curricular task.

When do students perform?

Children selected for an Avalon School Dance Group will audition for inclusion in the Sydney North Dance Festival which is held over several days during the last 2 weeks of Term 2.

All members must be available

- for each in-school rehearsal during Terms 1 and 2
- to participate in the Sydney North Dance Festival **auditions** held during Weeks 1, 2 or 3 in Term 2 and
- the festival itself which is held during the last 2 weeks of **Term 2 (including weekends, evenings and the last day of school)**

Families will be made aware of specific dates when we are notified.

Some items may be selected to participate in the State Dance Festival (possibly late Term 3). Some members of the dance groups may be selected to appear in the Schools Spectacular (late November) (additional cost), if Avalon is successful in gaining a place in this prestigious performance opportunity in 2020. Some students may also be selected to take part in Sydney North Talented Dance days to be held at the Sydney Dance Company.

Why are the numbers in each group limited?

Numbers are limited by the Sydney North Dance Festival guidelines - maximum of 24 dancers in total per group (boys and girls).



When do the children practise during Terms 1 and 2?

Year 2/3 Friday 8:30am-9:15am and Friday lunchtime

Year 4/5 Tuesday and Thursday at lunchtime

Year 5/6 Monday and Wednesday at lunchtime

Additional rehearsals may be called. Advance notice will be given to students. ***As rehearsal time is very limited, families are asked not to schedule appointments or long weekends during these rehearsal periods (especially during Terms 1 and 2).***

Is Dance part of the school curriculum?

Dance is included in the Creative Arts curriculum of all students attending Avalon Public School and provides children with the exposure to dance and movement. All classes enjoy dance as part of the Creative Arts Key Learning Area.

Is being a member of the Avalon Public School Dance Group a selective program?

Yes. It is a selective program for talented dancers, just like PSSA sport on Fridays. The children are selected on their individual talents and skills and their ability to work as part of a dynamic team.

Is the membership of the Avalon Public School Dance Group guaranteed each year?

Groups are reselected and re-auditioned at the beginning of each year. Membership during one year does not guarantee a position the following year.

What costs are involved in membership of the Avalon School Dance Group?

The cost involved in 2020 is \$160 which covers membership and entry fees, music, props, costuming (sourcing, materials and construction, accessories) and bus fares to external venues. Footwear and makeup costs are additional and dependent on each group's individual requirements.

This amount is payable on acceptance of the offer of a place in the group for 2020.

What assistance is required by families of Avalon Public School Dance Group dancers?

Families are required to assist their individual child with transportation and organisational requirements and to assist the entire group in other ways (eg hair and makeup, prop construction, Avalon Dance Committee membership, working bees- weekends and/or during the week). Each family will be asked to nominate their proposed area of assistance once the group has been selected. Families will also be asked to attend an Avalon Public School Dance Committee Information Session during Term 1 (date tba).

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