

INFORMATION ABOUT SLDS TIMETABLE FOR AUTUMN TERM 2017 & SPRING TERM 2018



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15th May 2017

Dear Parent or Guardian of Upper School Student,

Please find attached the timetable for **September 2017**. Following a large examination session (such as we have this term) and therefore, many of our 750 students moving levels, it is usually necessary to adjust the timetable to avoid clashes between lessons and to accommodate all of our students in suitable classes. This time, *most* classes have stayed on the same DAY as current, but many have changed TIME.

After reading below and referring to both attachments, if you notice any issues with your child's timetable for next term, in particular any clash between dance genres, or need further advice, then please *email* me. Unfortunately, I am not able to deal with enquiries about the new timetable solely by telephone as it's important that we have a communication trail.

We sincerely hope that it will not be necessary to make changes to this timetable and therefore, that this is the final version. However, if we are notified that a number of students have clashes between lessons, it may be necessary to release a second amended version after half term. We are not, however, in a position to be able to adjust the timetable if you find you / your child are unable to attend lessons next term due to clashes with other commitments.

TIMETABLE CHANGES FOR UPPER SCHOOL STUDENTS

It is, of course, not possible to list everything, but some of the major changes to the timetable and some other useful information is below:

* Saturday children taking Primary modern examination (or are moving up without taking examination) and are currently in the (IIIb) class will move into these classes:

- 1.55-2.40 Grade 1 modern (Ib)
- 2.40-3.25 Primary tap (b)
- 3.25-3.30 Supervised break
- 3.30-4.15 Pre-Primary 2 ballet (IIb)

* Saturday children taking Primary modern examination (or are moving up without taking examination) and are currently in the (IIIa) class will move into these classes:

- 3.30-4.15 Grade 1 modern (Ia)
- 4.15-5.00 Primary tap (a)
- 5.00-5.45 Pre-Primary 2 ballet (IIa)

Please note; there will NOT be room for children to move between the (a) and (b) groups described above unless a number of children leave the school unexpectedly.

* Wednesday and Friday 6.45pm Grade 2 ballet classes are no longer being offered.

* We have an additional Grade 3 ballet class on a Monday. If you would like to attend this class instead of Tuesday / Friday, please contact me immediately.

* Grade 4 and Adv 1 National classes may not go ahead if we don't have enough students. We will confirm over the next few weeks.

* Children taking their Grade 1 modern examination this term will start Grade 2 modern (I) and Level 1 commercial / street on a Thursday. A few children may be asked to move straight into Grade 2 modern (II), thus missing out the (I) class, but they will also attend Level 1 commercial / street on a Thursday.

* Not all students in Grade 2, 3 & 4 modern (I) will move up to the level (II) classes - this will be by assessment by the Principal later this term, so I will not be able to advise on this at this time. Likewise, children will be assessed with regard to moving up to the next level in Thursday commercial / street. The appropriate Thursday modern & commercial / street classes will be detailed on your invoice.

* We will not be offering a bronze Jazz class next term so if your child currently attends bronze jazz but is NOT taking the examination this term, he / she will focus on graded modern work for the foreseeable future until we can again offer a bronze jazz class, at which time they can re-join and recommence working towards the examination.

* Students in Grade 5 modern (I) and (II), will need to attend a second modern class per week if they wish to work towards their Grade 5 modern examination. The second class will be on a Tuesday evening.

* Grade 5 tap has moved to a Wednesday evening.

* There will not be a Grade 2 tap (II) class as all students currently in Grade 2 tap (I) will either move into Grade 3 tap (I) or stay in Grade 2 tap (I).

WHAT TO DO IF YOU FIND YOUR CHILD WILL NOT BE ABLE TO ATTEND THE NEW CLASS TIME(S) NEXT TERM

If your child will not be able to attend his / her classes next term for any reason (i.e. due to our timetable changes or any personal circumstance) then notice of leaving must be given to me by email or in writing on or before Friday 26th May, otherwise the full fees for next term would be payable in accordance with our school Terms and Conditions *. Wherever possible we will make every effort to find a solution and accommodate your needs as we hope all of our students will want to continue learning dance with us next term and in future. **You should never assume that we have received your email; it is your responsibility to ensure you receive response from us.**

* Terms and Conditions relating to invoicing and giving notice of leaving / changing classes

11. If you intend to withdraw yourself or your child from SLDS or change any class(es) that you or your child undertakes, **a minimum of half a term's notice (with the notice being received in writing (letter or email to the relevant Administrator is acceptable) on or before the last day of the first half of the term)** and the withdrawal or change will take effect from the **beginning of the next term.**
12. Withdrawal from or changes to classes you are / your child is signed up for may only take effect at the **start of each term.** Please note that where a parent / student gives notice of their intention to withdraw from or change classes **at any time after the last day of the first half of the term in any given term**, that notice will only take effect from the start of the second term following that notice and you will be invoiced and liable to pay for the relevant classes for the full duration of the first term following the notice. For children in Melody Movement, Nursery and Preparatory dance and tap classes, you will be liable to pay a £30 fee to contribute towards the administration involved in filling your child's space at a later stage.
13. ***For the avoidance of doubt: there is no right to withdraw or change classes midway through a term – if you give notice of your intention to withdraw or change class bookings during the half term break, during the second half of any term or at the end of term or during the holidays, this notice will not take effect until one full term later.***
14. If you wish to make a request in advance for preferred class(es) (at the existing or at the next level) for the next term, **a minimum of half a term's notice (with the request being received in writing (letter or email to the relevant Administrator is acceptable) on or before the last day of the first half of the term)** and we will accommodate the request as soon as possible.

REQUESTS ALREADY SENT TO US TO CHANGE CLASSES NEXT TERM

If you have already sent in a request regarding classes next term, please email me immediately if you no longer want us to try to accommodate your request, otherwise I will do my best to accommodate your request. Note that it is very likely that once I have accommodated your request, it would not be possible to move your child back to the original class(es). Also, if you notice that the changes to the timetable for September have affected a request you have already made, please contact me at the earliest opportunity possible, and **before half term**, so that we can try to find a solution.

ACTING AND GYM SKILLS CLASSES

We are pleased to let you know that there will be a few spaces in our Friday 6.45-7.45pm Gym skills (I) class. This class is for children aged 6 up to and including those in Grade 2 ballet. The classes aim to develop flexibility and strength and master gymnastic skills which can be used in dance routines. Please contact me if you'd like further information about this class.

Also, as we are introducing an additional acting class on a Sunday fortnightly, we will have a few spaces available at each level, so for children from age 4 plus:

3.30-4.30 Acting (I)

4.30-5.45 Acting (II)

5.45-7.15 Acting (III)

Acting classes at South London Dance Studios focus on the requirements for children wanting to audition for and work in TV, film and theatre. Key skills are taught in a fun and confidence building environment including: listening and reacting to others (the main skill in acting!), improvisation, becoming a character, text work (monologues, duologues and group pieces), voice production and accent training. If your child is interested in acting and also in the possibility of being considered to audition for a performing arts agency in future, then please contact me for further information.

Best wishes for a happy remainder of the summer term!

Katie Smith

Upper School Administrator

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