



**SOUTH
LONDON
DANCE
SCHOOL**

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Lower School - Start of Term Newsletter - Friday 12th April 2024

Dear Parent or Carer,

I hope you've had an enjoyable Easter break - at least the sun has finally come out for the last few days! Summer term classes start THIS Monday (15th April) and we very much look forward to seeing your children again and welcoming quite number of new students to our school.

To help the term to start smoothly, please refer back to the invoice that was sent to you on Friday 15th March (or more recently in the case of students who are new to our school), from lowerschool@southlondondanceschool.co.uk to remind yourself of your child's dance schedule for this term as some students have a different timetable to previous. Also, please note that we have recently made some changes to the order of lessons within some of the Saturday sessions and we will notify you about this next week by email, so that your child can be ready for the correct lesson first.

Sunday 21st April - Second Hand Uniform Sale 10am-12pm in studio 1

If you have items to donate to the sale, then please drop them off to the waiting room next week from Monday 3pm onwards, please ensure all items are washed. Use the link below to see which items are considered 'higher value' and therefore, if you wish, you can ask for 50% of the proceeds to be repaid to you. You will need to print out selling labels and attach to any 'higher value' items that you wish to sell.

<https://southlondondancestudios.co.uk/wp-content/uploads/2023/09/Second-Hand-Uniform-Sale-Information-Sept-2023-1.pdf>

We are grateful for donations of all uniform items that are in good condition, but please note that we are not able to sell any items at the 50/50 arrangement, other than those which are specifically listed as 'higher value items' in the above link.

The parent volunteers at the sale are happy to help but strongly advise that you **bring with you to the sale a copy of your invoice for the summer term** so that you can be sure which level your child will be in since many uniform and shoe items are different for the various levels within the school. You can find your summer term invoice in your emails - it's was sent to you on Friday 15th March from:

lowerschool@southlondondanceschool.co.uk

Once again, the sale is CASH only and please bring change (coins) as unfortunately, there will not be any float available.

There is still plenty of stock of tap & National shoes (which are in fact better second hand as the leather is softer), also ballet shoes and National skirts. We have a more limited stock of uniform items and there are no Melody Movement uniforms, pink dresses / cardigans, or lavender ballet skirts available.

Please note that the uniform sale is run by parent volunteers and unfortunately the email address is not being manned at this time, so you will need to attend the sale if you wish to purchase any items or enquire about donations.

Reminders for when you are at the studios

- Please be reminded that the front door code is the same as last term. There is not always someone in the office to answer the door, so please ensure you let anyone know this code, who is dropping off or collecting your child.
- Bicycles, e-bikes and e-scooters may be stored in the side area of the building and can be locked to the bicycle hoops. However, e-bikes and e-scooters must NOT be stored near to the accessible toilet at the far end of the side area. Lithium batteries on e-bikes and e-scooters must be genuine makes and kept in good condition. Under no circumstances may any bicycles, e-bikes, scooters or e-scooters be stored inside the building, also they must NOT be stored in staff car park near to the back door to the studios as this is an emergency exit route.
- To relieve corridor congestion and meet H&S requirements, please do not change your child in the corridor - we have two changing rooms upstairs. Also, with the exception of Melody Movement classes, please don't leave any outdoor coats and shoes in the corridor as it's a fire exit route which must be kept clear.
- Please do not bring buggies in corridor unless the child inside the buggy is asleep (you can enter via the back gate and bring a bicycle lock to lock your buggy to the hoops in side return). Bicycles and scooters are also not permitted inside the building.
- Regarding the changing rooms, please note that female carers with young boys should use the girls changing room and male carers with young girls should use the boys changing room. Please contact us if you have any questions about this.
- Children in Pre-Primary ballet (I) who have long enough hair should please have it in a classical ballet bun for classes. An information sheet about this was attached with your invoice (please refer to Friday 15th March email from lowerschool@southlondondanceschool.co.uk)
- **Please ensure you name all uniform items and shoes, especially shoes and any uniform items which are removed in class.**

- **Lavender Ballet Skirts - Pre-Primary and Primary ballet**

Please ensure you have sewn 2 tucks into your child's Matilda Roch Valley ballet skirt to ensure it fits tightly on the waist, not hips - instructions on how to do this can be found below:

<https://drive.google.com/drive/u/4/folders/18dyWg749hrdz8qUxXR13NKz05aoOqpJ4>

- **Heel Taps for Tap Shoes - Pre-Primary and Primary tap**

Please ensure that your child has the appropriate heel taps for their tap shoes (a small metallic bit to be added to the shoes added to their tap shoes) as without them, children are not able to hear all the beats they should be making. Duo Dance, and most other specialised dancewear shops normally supply heel taps, and they should be able to advise you about how to add them to your child's tap shoes. If you are buying new shoes for your child then please ensure you ask about heel taps at the time of purchasing the shoes to save having to make an extra journey!

- Supervised breaks remain the same as last term, also please be reminded that any snacks must comply with our allergens policy:

<https://southlondondancestudios.co.uk/wp-content/uploads/2022/11/South-London-Dance-School-nut-products-policy-1.pdf>

- Please familiarise yourself with our lateness policy which will be in place from the start of term with the aim of reducing interruptions to classes so that children can be given their opportunity to focus to the best of their ability:

<https://southlondondancestudios.co.uk/wp-content/uploads/2021/09/South-London-Dance-School-Lateness-Policy-31082021.pdf>

Remember that if your child is in Pre-Primary level and they are more than 10 minutes late for the first lesson of their session, then they will be permitted to join for the second lesson of that session. Regarding absences, this term, we do not need to be informed if your child will miss only one or two lessons. However, please do notify the office if your child will miss three or more lessons in succession. Thank you for your cooperation.

Injuries, allergies, illnesses, other medical conditions & SEND

- In order to ensure the safety of our students, it is of the utmost importance that parents / carers inform us of any allergies or illnesses their child may have, so that we have this on record in case of any medical emergency.
- If your child suffers from any medical condition or has been / is in the process of being assessed for SEND and you have not already informed us, then please contact me **by 9am on Monday** so this can be noted on your child's record and so that our teachers can provide the best possible support for your child.
- If your child carries with them an epi-pen, or any other medication which we might need to administer, then please contact me **by 9am on Monday**.
- If your child has suffered an injury over the Easter break, or has a pre-existing injury, then we **MUST** be notified **by 9am on Monday** so that teachers can be informed and a decision about participation in classes can be reached.

Save the date - summer holiday workshops - 27th to 30th August

Our summer holiday workshops will take place from **Tuesday 27th to Friday 30th August**. Further information will be sent to you during the first half of term about what the week will include, but rest assured it will be fun and challenging for the children, so make sure you save the date now! The children will work towards an informal performance for you to watch at the end of the week.

Our summer and autumn 2024 term dates can be found here:

<https://southlondondancestudios.co.uk/general-information/term-dates/>

To stay up to date with events happening at our school, follow us on social media:

Facebook - @southlondondanceschool

Instagram - @south_london_dance_school

Wishing you a relaxing weekend and then an enjoyable start next week to summer term 2024!

Miss Zoe

Principal

South London Dance School