



Upper School - Invoice Newsletter - Monday 1st July 2024

Dear Parent or Carer,

I hope many of you have enjoyed watching your child's classes last week. As previously mentioned, if you were not invited to watch this term, then we look forward to welcoming the parents / carers of our Lower School children in November and Upper School in February next year.

I should also mention that this time next year, we will have just performed our big show at Catford Broadway theatre and everyone will still be on a high, so make sure you save the date - **28th & 29th June 2025!**

The full term and events dates for academic year 2024-2025 are now on our website:

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

Invoice for next term (autumn term 2024)

Please find attached your invoice for classes next term. The term will include 13 weeks of lessons and commences on **Monday 2nd September 2024.**

Please check each of the lesson days and times on your invoice very CAREFULLY as there are some significant changes to the timetable for this academic year as advised in the 20th May email.

You can see our full timetable for the autumn term here:

<https://southlondondancestudios.co.uk/studio-timetable/>

If you have a query about your invoice, or you notice anything that is incorrect, then contact your administrator immediately. If you do not hear back from them after 5 days or before the end of term (whichever is sooner), please contact them again to make sure we have received your email.

Please do not reply to the email to which the invoice is attached, instead please contact:

sldsupperschool@gmail.com

Please ensure payment is made on or before the last day of this term which is **Saturday 13th July**. If payment is not made on time, you could lose your space or an administration fee would be added to your account. Kindly ensure all payments state the students name, otherwise it cannot be allocated to the correct student. Thank you very much for your cooperation.

Payment of this invoice confirms your acceptance of our school Terms and Conditions:

<https://southlondondancestudios.co.uk/terms-conditions/>

Please note that the date for giving notice of leaving the school or requesting to change any classes for next term has now passed and therefore fees in lieu of attendance next term would be chargeable.

Commercial / Street dancing classes

If your child attends Levels 1-5 commercial / street classes then please be advised that on the whole, classes have been organised according to modern class, due to timetabling. Additionally, children have been assessed by the teacher and Principal with regard to moving up to the next level, where possible in terms of timetabling. Bear in mind that there are fewer levels in commercial / street compared to modern grades and so movement through the levels is slower, also note that taking a Freestyle examination does not impact moving up to the next level in commercial / street or modern.

Breaks between classes

If your child has a break between their classes which is supervised by a teaching assistant then this will be detailed in the notes section of your invoice.

Any other breaks on a weekday or Saturday will not be supervised so if your child does not have a consent slip to leave the building without an adult then you will need to collect and look after them in their break.

Many students without consent slips in place will have breaks on a Monday and / or Thursday evening and therefore, you may wish to organise a parent rota to supervise your child's group once term has started to avoid all parents having to be at the studios during the break. Alternatively, if your child is in Year 5 or above and you feel they are mature enough for you to give consent for them to leave the dance studio unaccompanied then please contact Natasha before the end of this term for further information - sldsupperschool@gmail.com

Uniform for next term

If your child has moved up to the next level, then please check the relevant uniform list over the summer break:

<https://southlondondancestudios.co.uk/general-information/uniform-for-dance-classes/>

The main uniform changes due to level are as follows:

- Children in Pre-Primary and Primary tap will need heel taps which are now available in Duo Dance
- Girls moving into Primary ballet (II), or starting Grade 1 ballet will need a National skirt (ordering information can be found via the above link)
- Girls moving into Grade 1 ballet will need ribbons on their ballet shoes and a lavender ballet belt
- Girls moving into Grade 3 ballet will need a black leotard
- Boys moving into Grade 2 tap & Girls moving into Grade 3 tap will need black jazz pants
- Girls moving into Grade 1 tap and Grade 3 tap need a different tap shoe, however, you can wait until your child has grown out of their current pair (but if they are taking their examination in March 2025, then they will need the correct shoes from after the October half term break)

I am pleased to remind you that Duo Dance is now stocking 'Shades' ballet tights and socks with a much better range of colour options available which are optional instead of 'ballet pink'.

Second-hand uniform sale - Sunday 1st September 10am-12pm

A **second-hand uniform sale** will take place on **Sunday 1st September**, the day before term starts, so that you can have the opportunity to purchase items that your child needs before their first class.

Please note that going forwards, the volunteer parents and I will only be holding ONE sale per year, so this will be your ONLY opportunity to purchase second hand items for the full academic year ahead!

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 next 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.

The sale will be CASH only and please bring change (coins as well as notes if possible) as unfortunately, there will not be any float available.

We have a good stock of tap and National shoes of all sizes (which are in fact better second hand as the leather is softer) and leather ballet shoes for children in Primary and below. Unfortunately, we do not have any second-hand stock at all of pink dresses for Nursery and Preparatory girls, Melody Movement uniforms for girls or lavender skirts for Pre-Primary and Primary.

More information about our annual second-hand sale can be found here:

<https://southlondondancestudios.co.uk/wp-content/uploads/2024/06/Second-Hand-Uniform-Sale-Information-June-2024.pdf>

If you have items to donate then please leave them in the boxes in the waiting room before the end of this term. If you subsequently discover more items at home over the summer break, then please contact your Administrator to ask when you can drop them off. 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. **We are grateful for donations of all uniform items, 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' on the above link.**

Summer holiday Dance & Musical Theatre course - Tues 27th to Fri 30th August

If your child is going to be in school Reception or above in September and they are interested in taking part in our Summer Holiday Dance & Musical Theatre course, then please refer to the email that was sent to you on 4th June, or email sldsummerprogramme@gmail.com for more information, or to sign up.

The course will take place at the studios from **Tuesday 27th to Friday 30th August**, with an informal performance for parents on the Friday afternoon. Miss Zoe encourages all Upper School students to attend if they are able to, as it will be a good way to start to regain strength and flexibility ahead of the start of term, not to mention have fun, develop performance skills and make new friends! Miss Zoe would particularly like to run a seniors group this year so please encourage your teenager to attend!

End of Term

We would like to give a sweet to each upper school child at the end of this term. If you would prefer your child not to be offered a sweet by their teacher during the last week of this term, then please reply to this email by **Friday 4th July**, so that teachers can be made aware.

End of year reports will be emailed to you after the end of this term. As previously advised, reports are provided for the below levels in core genres of ISTD syllabus ballet, tap and modern and above:

Primary ballet (II)

Grade 1 modern (II)

Grade 1 tap (II)

Below these grades and in subjects other than ballet, tap and modern, a formal report is not provided; however, rest assured that we would contact the parent / guardian if appropriate. Therefore, please be aware that your child may have a report for only some of the genres that they learn, not all.

Please note that the classes detailed on your child's report are the levels that they were in before the March 2024 examination session, however, the gradings are a reflection of their performance over the whole academic year.

Round up of this year's award winners

Please join me in congratulating the winners of awards over this academic year:

Examinations awards

- **Seren Mguni-Jones** won the CLASS EXAMINATION CUP for achieving 90% in her Primary tap examination
- **Hughie Buttler** won the MODERN SHIELD for achieving 94% in his Grade 3 modern examination
- **Amelia Popiel** won the TAP SHIELD for achieving 94% in her Grade 1 tap examination
- **April Bruggemeyer** won the BALLETT SHIELD for achieving 93% in her Grade 5 ballet examination

Charlotte Leatherbarrow Memorial Performance Award

- **Lucia Ligas**
- **Luelle Rutteman**
- **Isabella Mallon**

SLDS Effort Cup

- **Jasmine-Beau Martin**
- **Florence Ireson**
- **Zoe Karypi Antonio**

SLDS Effort in Musical Theatre Cup

- **Isla Service**
- **Dinah Rodway**

SLDS students performing in London Children's Ballet THIS WEEKEND

Three of our students - April, Fredric and Giaime, will be performing at the Peacock Theatre with London Children's Ballet in their production of 'The Secret Garden' from 4th-7th July. If you would like to watch this wonderful production, then you can use the link below to purchase tickets:

<https://www.londonchildrensballet.com/current-season/theseecretgarden24/>

Please note that this is a full-length ballet, so it may not be suitable for children under school Reception age.

Tap Dancing Festival - 16th to 18th August

If you or your child love tap dancing, then have a look at what's on offer at the FIRST EVER London Tap Dancing Festival from 16th-18th August. Go to <https://www.oldkentroadtap.com/festival>

There will be a taster session for people who have never put on a pair of tap shoes and classes for beginners through to advanced. The recommended age to take part is Year 6 plus. Contact Old Kent Road (OKR) organisers via the contact page on their website if you'd like to book a class for yourself or your child, but you are not sure of your level -

<https://www.oldkentroadtap.com/contact>

All events and classes will be held at the new Brixton House theatre on Coldharbour Lane.

If you prefer to watch then OKR will be hosting a famous 'Tap Jam' (improvised tap to a live band) on Friday 16th August at 8pm and a Gala Performance on Saturday 17th August at 7.30pm.

Keep up the good work over the holiday!

Please help your child to keep up with doing some stretching over the summer holiday, also if they are going to be considered for an examination in March, then they need to practice at home using the sheets that you have already been given, or that will be given to your child in class before the end of this term.

In addition to the various stretching and strengthening sheets that have been given to your child to use at home, children in the below levels have been given a sheet which is focused on examination exercises:

- Primary ballet (I)
- Pre-Primary tap (III) (a video of the exercises on the sheet will also be sent)
- Grade 1 tap (I)
- Grade 2 tap (I)
- Grade 3 tap (I)
- Grade 4 tap (I)
- Grade 5 tap
- Primary modern (I) / (II)
- Grade 1 modern (I)
- Grade 2 modern (I)
- Grade 3 modern (I)
- Grade 4 modern (I)
- Grade 5 modern
- Grade 6 modern

If your child doesn't practice over the summer then unfortunately, it most likely will impact their chance of being offered the opportunity to take the examination in March.

Some of the teachers will be available for ad hoc private lessons over the summer so contact Natasha if you want to book any.

Lost Property

Over the summer break, the lost property in the waiting room will be cleared out and taken to the charity shop / put into our second-hand uniform sale stock, so please make sure you look for any lost items before the end of this term. We are sorry but we are unable to respond to phone calls or emails about lost property.

Lastly, we say a sad goodbye to Anna, Giaime and Fredric who are leaving us at the end of this term for vocational training in performing arts. I have previously announced that Anna is going to **Arts Educational in Chiswick** and Giaime is going to the **Sylvia Young Theatre School** in Central London, but I am very pleased to let you know that Fredric has more recently received a full scholarship to train in classical ballet at **London Vocational Ballet School**. This is a fantastic achievement and we are incredibly proud of Fredric. I am sure you will join me in wishing them all the best with their training and future careers. I will, of course, keep our community updated about their achievements.

Best wishes for a great summer holiday - before then, if you see her, please feel free to wish Miss Ellie congratulations and hoping she has the most wonderful wedding day!

We look forward to seeing some of you at the end of August for the summer programme and everyone in September.

Miss Zoe

Principal

South London Dance School