

BDA
Brewer Dance Academy
Primary Exam/Class Award breakdown

Dear all,

As we approach exam term, we hope that the following information will help you decide if your child should take an Exam, a Class Award, or neither!

Primary Exam

Candidates are examined in groups of up to four. They must be competent in all the following exercises, (organised into 6 sections):

Warm-up

Legs and feet

Arms and head

Bend and run

Bend and point

Transfer of weight

Marches

Jumps

Springs

Hops, jumps and springs

Galops and skips

Run and leap

Dance A (Bouncing ball dace)

Cool-down and révérence

There is a recommended total of 40 learning hours for Primary, which works out at approximately 53 lessons. Exam coaching is therefore essential, not just because it contributes to these learning hours, but because teaching staff are not allowed in the examination room. Candidates must be confident performing without assistance.

Success at Primary level is usual, but not guaranteed. The PASS mark is 40/100, indicating adequate achievement in all sections. The next attainment band, MERIT, starts from 55/100. To achieve a DISTINCTION candidates must receive 75/100 or higher.

Primary Class Award

Candidates are assessed in groups of up to eight. There is a shorter list of exercises, chosen by your school:

Warm-up

Legs and feet

Arms and head

Bend and run

Transfer of weight

Marches

Jumps

Hops, Jumps, and springs.

Run and leap.

Dance A

Cool-down

Coaching for Class Award is not essential, as teaching staff are allowed in the room to direct and help the candidates. However, we do try to arrange a special rehearsal if possible.

Primary Class Awards are assessed as a whole, rather than in sections. It is therefore important that candidates complete every exercise. Examiners are looking for *control, timing, expression, and confidence*. Successful candidates will receive a general report indicating whether they OCCASIONALLY, GENERALLY, or FREQUENTLY displayed this.

Please note- if you would like to progress to Grade 1 without doing either the Exam or Class Award, you may do so. You will still be eligible for future exam sessions.

This also applies to those wishing to take the Class Award rather than the Exam.

However, this does not necessarily mean you may move up to Grade 1 before your classmates! A Primary Exam may not be a pre-requisite for future success, but the learning hours in the lead up to this session could be invaluable to future development.