



Hitchin School of Dance
Autumn/Winter Term Newsletter 2024

Autumn Term

What a fantastic start to this academic year at HSD. Students have done extremely well in learning their ISTD set syllabus work and we are looking forward to starting to enter students that are ready, into a March exam session for Modern and Tap, and a summer exam session for Ballet.

Our street/commercial, jazz, lyrical and strength & stretch classes have enjoyed new routines and improving their technique as well as building up their 'dance log' of new skills and steps - so well done to everyone!

We have also added a new adult Jazz/west end class on a Tuesday where we've been dancing and singing along to our favourite show tunes. This means we are now offering six different classes at HSD to adults!

If you are interested in learning to dance, want to get back to dancing or continue your dancing, please let me know. We have waiting lists for some classes but if there is enough interest, we would love to add some more adult classes to the timetable!

Teachers

We have welcomed Miss Leah to the teaching team this half term. Leah graduated from EDA with a first class Hons in Musical Theatre. She has completed many ISTD exams and loves the performance side of dancing.

She has said that; "performing and dancing allows you to have fun and build confidence, I love that I can share this with the students at HSD"

We are delighted to have Leah teaching our Monday classes

Exams

This term we have been focusing on our ISTD exam syllabus in our modern, tap and ballet classes (Primary and above). We shall we aiming to hold an exam session and internal assessment session towards the end of March for our modern and tap students, and in the summer term for our ballet students. Whilst we encourage students to take exams, they aren't compulsory. The ISTD require a certain level in each grade for a student to pass an exam which includes knowledge of syllabus, posture, performance, technique, accuracy, and timing amongst many other elements.

Some students may not be quite ready to take an exam when we hold an exam session so they will take part in a less formal internal assessment. We will only enter students into exams if we feel they are confident and will get the best mark they can.

We have many years of experience entering students for exams so please trust our judgment if we decide a student shan't be taking an exam in the session. Students can still move into the next grade if they do not take the exam, this will be discussed with their teacher.

Cost of Exams

The fees for exams are set by the ISTD. Students will need extra rehearsals if they are entered for exams. This will come as an additional charge to their normal classes.

Online portal

For safety, I must have an emergency contact for each student

Please check that all of your child's information is filled out and up to date on our online portal i.e. emergency contact number, medical notes, photo consent, D.O.B. There is a link under "more" then "links" on our website.

Sign in here: <https://app.classmanager.com/portal/hitchin-school-of-dance/login>

**You may need to 'forget password' to log in* if you haven't signed in previously*

January Timetable

NEW WEDNESDAYS CLASS TIMES

(these were handed out before October half term to the students it affects)

Wednesdays with Mrs Gabbi

4:00-4:30 Pre-Primary Ballet (W)

4:30-5:00 Primary Ballet (1)

5:00-5:30 Primary Tap (1)

5:30-6:15 Primary Ballet (2)

6:15-6:45 Private Lesson

6:45-7:15 Private Lesson

For students taking ballet & tap consecutively, please bring both pairs of shoes into class. They will change shoes in the hall

You can see the full 2024/2025 timetable on our website.

Mini Classes are for students aged 3-4.5/5. Students move up from Mini to their next class at the beginning of the half term when they are turning 5.

An e-mail will be sent when your child is ready to move into the next class – this applies to all classes.

Trialling Classes

If you or your child would like to trial a class in the New Year, now is the time to book! We limit our class numbers so spaces do go quickly and we do have classes with waiting list! Trials are free but must be booked in advance.

Dates for your diary

SPRING TERM

Monday 6th January 2025 – Friday 4th April 2025 (12 weeks)

HALF TERM: Monday 17th February 2025 – Friday 21st February 2025

Invoices will be sent out Thursday 2nd January 2025

SUMMER TERM

Monday 28th April 2025 – Friday 18th July 2025 (12 weeks)

HALF TERM: Monday 26th May 2025 – Friday 30th May 2025

No classes are held on bank holidays

Dates may be subject to change with six weeks notice

SHOWS: 21st & 22nd March 2026

Information on timetable, term dates, class fees, T&C's can always be found on our website:
HitchinSchoolofDance.co.uk

May I remind anyone who is stopping classes that we have a strict 6 weeks notice policy. This applies throughout the whole year. You will be charged for the classes that are running in the 6 weeks notice period from when we have received written notice (e-mail)
This is highlighted in our T&C's

Thank you to everyone who gave the HSD team cards and gifts. We never expect them so thank you for your kindness.

Myself, Miss Alison, Miss Ylana and Miss Leah wish you a wonderful Christmas and a Happy and Healthy New Year.

I have a feeling 2025 will be an exciting year for HSD

Love, Mrs Gabbi x

Important Information:

Please note:

I now only use the e-mail address below

We have new bank account details

School E-mail: Info@HitchinSchoolofDance.com

School Number: 07801261249

Website: HitchinSchoolofDance.co.uk

All information about uniform, timetable, term dates etc can be found on the website.

Instagram - [@HitchinSchoolofDance_](https://www.instagram.com/HitchinSchoolofDance_)

Facebook – [Hitchin School of Dance](https://www.facebook.com/HitchinSchoolofDance)

Bank Details:

Hitchin School of Dance (via Gabrielle Tuck) Monzo Business

Sort Code: 04-00-03

Account Number: 56939155