



MORDEN -- STUDIO POLICIES 2023-2024

Cancelled Classes (Weather, etc.)

- ◆ **PLEASE ensure your contact information with us is correct** - if we need to contact you short notice on a class cancellation, this is appreciated.
- ◆ If roads or weather conditions are bad, or worsen as the day progresses, DanceWorks will act in accordance with the school division in that studio location's area. **If schools are cancelled, dance classes will be moved to Zoom if the instructor is able to make it to the studio. If the instructor cannot make it in, class will be cancelled. You will receive an email with instructions for your class.** Weather conditions are beyond our control, and weather-related cancellations will not be made up. DanceWorks' curriculum takes into consideration 1 snow day when planning our classes to ensure that all material is covered within our dance year.
- ◆ If schools are not cancelled in the morning, and harsh weather conditions are forecast, DanceWorks management and staff will make a decision whether or not to cancel classes or move them to Zoom for the safety of students and teachers. In this situation, parents and students will receive an email to notify them of this decision. If you suspect class may be cancelled, be sure to check your emails after 3:30!!! (As instructors and administrators are often en route traveling just prior to this - we suggest this time so to reflect their experience on the roads). For those students with earlier classes, an email and/or phone call will be made.
- ◆ When emails are sent, PLEASE RESPOND to the email so DanceWorks staff know who have been successfully notified.
- ◆ Morden Studio will be cancelled if Western School Div. is cancelled. Manitou classes will be cancelled when Prairie Spirit School Div. is cancelled
- ◆ If the instructor is sick or suddenly unavailable due to weather conditions or other emergencies, we will first try to find a suitable substitute for the class. If a substitute is unavailable, the class will be cancelled and made up within the school year. Parents and students will be notified by email then, if necessary by text, in hopes of informing everyone ASAP. Every effort will be made to reschedule the class at the most accommodating time for the majority of the participants. Refunds will not be given.

Class Changes:

- ◆ After **November 17, 2023**, students will not be allowed to "switch" classes, even if the class is in the same discipline at the same level. This is to protect the flow and learning process of all the students within this class. By December, the teachers at DanceWorks have already started choreography planning for Recital, and costume preparation.

Class Length:

- ◆ All scheduled classes will start at their designated time and run for 55minutes (45 minute classes run 40 minutes). This allows 5 minutes to switch classes, questions, and for the instructor time. If you have a brief question for the teacher, please ask it at that time. We appreciate your concerns and questions for teachers – if your question is too long to discuss during this time, please set up a time to call, meet, or email.

Dancewear:

- ◆ Students are required to abide by DanceWorks' Dress Code Uniform. DanceWorks carries new dancewear or we can direct you to Winnipeg retailers. DanceWorks maintains a basic supply of dance shoes, bodysuits, and uniforms which are available for purchase throughout the year.
- ◆ If a particular size or item is not in stock, DanceWorks can order in or have items made, please be advised that your order may take up to 2 weeks to receive dancewear.
- ◆ Please come to all classes with the appropriate footwear.
- ◆ Prices for these items are at cost plus shipping (for individual specialty items – you will pay for the item at cost, all shipping fees, plus applicable taxes)

Discipline

- ◆ All students should be respectful of the studio, others' belongings, other students, and dance/drama classes that are in progress.
- ◆ It is our desire to create a positive and safe environment for the students to grow - unruly or disrespectful behavior, comments, or attitudes are unacceptable.
- ◆ **No cell phones or electronics** allowed during a dance class. If cell phones are brought in, they must be turned to mute and left with the instructor.
- ◆ DanceWorks believes that dancing should not be forced. If it is the student's idea to dance, then a life-long love and respect for the art can be developed. Therefore, if a student is disrespectful of the class or the teacher, or refuses to participate adequately, they will be asked to sit down until they decide they are ready. Parents will be notified after.

Food and Drink:

- ◆ Chewing gum and eating is NOT permitted in the Dance Studios.
- ◆ Students may bring a water bottle into the Dance Studio. We ask all students to be responsible for their water bottles (please do not leave behind).

Holidays and Rescheduled Classes

- ◆ DanceWorks will be closed during statutory holidays. Rescheduled classes are factored into the existing schedule.
- ◆ Classes are **not** canceled for Halloween or Easter Monday as it is not a statutory holiday. We ask parents and youth to coordinate their activities accordingly.
- ◆ If a class is canceled by the teacher, a rescheduled class will be arranged at a later date.
- ◆ If students are missing classes, please contact the studio so that teachers can be made aware.

Tardiness, Absences, and Pickup:

- ◆ PLEASE BE ON TIME, so there is no disruption to the class.
- ◆ Absentees and those always late may lose opportunity in performance/recitals involvement. Preference given to those who show commitment/respect to the class/students.
- ◆ Students must remember that when absent, choreography plans and rehearsing for performances is significantly affected.
- ◆ After class, please make sure to have arrangements for student pickup, especially in scenarios where teachers need to close up at the end of a schedule to move onto other classes in other locations.

FEES & FINANCES

Costume Fee:

- ◆ Each student requires a costume for recital. A fee of \$70 has been set for each costume for students 8 & under, \$75 for students 9 – 11, and \$85 for students 12+ (includes taxes, shipping, tariffs, construction fees, materials, etc.).
- ◆ Due by Dec. 1, 2023, this fee is non-refundable after Jan. 8, 2024 as costume material may have been purchased and labor begun (as per Withdrawal Policy).
- ◆ **After December 1, late costume payments are subject to a \$5 late fee.**
- ◆ Costumes will belong to the dancers however they will not be distributed until the week before dress rehearsal.
- ◆ Theatre students are not subject to a costume fee however theatre students do not keep costumes.

NSF Cheques:

- ◆ A \$25 charge will be applied to all NSF cheques. Follow-up payment must then be made by registered cheque or cash.

Student Withdrawal:

- ◆ A refund (minus a \$25 administration fee and individual class fees of \$15 per hour class) will be issued for students.
- ◆ Costume fees cannot be refunded after January 8, 2024
- ◆ No refunds will be processed after January 1, 2024 without a medical note, or because of relocation.
- ◆ ALL WITHDRAWALS MUST BE RECEIVED IN WRITING AND WILL BE CONSIDERED FROM THE TIME THEY ARE RECEIVED.
- ◆ Refunds will be processed through the administrative process, refunds will be returned to the payee by cheque or e-transfer.

Optional Costs:

- ◆ Other costs that may be associated with your child's dance education (but are **optional**) are: Dance Exams and Workshops, and Recital/Performance related expenses such as: Tickets, Pictures, DVD's, Flowers, etc.

Pre-school Parents

- ◆ Parents with small children should supervise their child in the waiting area until the time that the class starts, even if the teacher is already in the studio.
- ◆ Parents need not wait in the lobby while their child is in class however parents are asked to be on time at the end to greet their child as they exit the Studio.

Communication

- ◆ All newsletters and handouts are sent by email! If you do not have access to the internet you can request a paper copy of the Newsletter at the Morden Studio or through satellite instructors. This is also meant to ensure that 'notes' do make it home after classes.
- ◆ Please ensure that you notify the studio of any change in your email address so that you don't miss out on important information.
- ◆ DanceWorks' receptionist, Mrs. Vanessa Klassen, holds regular office hours in Morden. Please call the studio for updated office hours or email us questions/comments at ANY time!
- ◆ We encourage constructive communication with the studio on ideas or concerns so we can continue to better serve you. We remind everyone that each email and call is taken seriously and will be considered within the context of improving the entire studio.
- ◆ We also remind those in contact with us that we will give each concern due consideration and research and in some circumstances it may take time for us to contact instructors and any other parties involved before we can reply back to an issue.
- ◆ **Website:** www.dwstudio.ca **Email:** danceworks.mb@gmail.com OR richard@candlewick.ca **Phone:** 204-822-9981

Video Taping

- ◆ Non-studio cameras and video taping are not permitted during regular class time so that the teacher may keep the class moving without any distractions and so that classes may be kept on schedule. This is also to avoid privacy concerns.

Volunteers

- ◆ For those interested in supporting their youth or the studio, opportunities exist for volunteers to help with recital, performances, marketing, etc. Opportunities may come up throughout the year and highlighted at the studio or in newsletters. Please contact Vanessa at the office to communicate your availability.

DRESS CODE / UNIFORM

DanceWorks requires a dress code / uniform at all our dance studios. These uniforms will be required for all workshop participation as well as for weekly classes. As a studio, we believe in a dress code/uniform because it instills a respect for the art form, promotes a disciplined environment, provides uniformity so that students are judged on their ability and not on their fashion, encourages every child to feel equally included in the class, provides a professional atmosphere, helps build individual self-esteem, and allows the teacher to make and see corrections easier.

DANCE EXPLORATION, TINY DANCERS

GIRLS: pink ballet slippers, pink tights, bodysuit and optional skirt in any color. Hair must be securely off the face in a high pony-tail or bun.

BOYS: T-Shirt, shorts or sweatpants and bare feet or white sock and ballet slippers.

BALLET CLASSES & DANCE FOUNDATION

GIRLS: black bodysuit, pink ballet slippers and pink ballet tights. Skirt of any color optional. Hair must be securely off the face in a classical bun. If short hair, a matching hair band can be worn.

TEENS: Dark bodysuit, dark skirt or bike shorts, pink ballet tights, pink ballet slippers. Hair must be securely off the face in a classical bun.

BOYS: white fitted T-shirt with dark shorts or sweatpants, white ballet shoes and white socks

CONTEMPORARY

Contemporary 1 - 2: black bodysuit, Foot Undeez or ½ sole slippers and beige footless tights. Skirt optional. Hair in a bun or high pony-tail.

Contemporary 3 - 4: Black bodysuit or fitted black t-shirt, black skirt, Bicycle shorts or Jazz Pants, beige footless tights may be worn. Hair is securely off the face in a high pony-tail or high bun.

BOYS: white fitted T-shirt with dark shorts or sweatpants, white ballet shoes and white socks

JAZZ / TAP

All classes are required to have the appropriate shoe (*Jazz – Oxford shoe / Tap – Tap Shoe*) plus:

Jazz/Tap 1 and 2 Black bodysuit, Black tights; Hair is securely off the face in a high pony-tail

Jazz/Tap 3 to Teen: Black bodysuit or fitted black t-shirt, black tights, black Bicycle shorts or Jazz Pants may be worn. Hair is securely off the face in a high pony-tail or high bun.

BOYS: Black T-shirt, Black Jazz pants

HIP HOP / BREAK DANCE

Dark pants (Jazz or Sweat), T-shirt free of writing or symbols, In-door– non-marking Running shoes

IRISH

Black or White fitted t-shirt, shorts or ¾ length fitted pants, white socks, Irish soft shoes, Hair securely off the face in a pony-tail. Irish hard shoes are required for older classes.

THEATRE CLASSES

Please wear respectable, comfortable clothing which you are able to move about freely in.