

# Festival Information

Congratulations! Your child has been selected to perform a solo or to be part of one of the Performance Groups representing Ballyhoo Dance and Theatre School in a local Dance Festival.

Here is some useful information about Festivals!

F- Above all a Festival is intended to be **Fun!**

E- All of our performers say they **Enjoy** competing in Festivals

S- Festivals are a great **Sociable** event for performers and parents

T- **Teamwork!** We support each other both on and off the stage

I- Festivals give you an opportunity to watch other dancers and get new **Ideas**

V- Festivals provide the dancers with the **Valuable** skill of performing

A- All our Festival performers are **Ambassadors** for Ballyhoo

L- So **Let the Fun begin!**

## What Festival?

BDS encourage our Festival Performers to enter several Festivals during the year.

You don't have to but once you have spent time and let's face it money! to learn a routine it is a good idea to perform it as many times as possible!

You will find a list attached of the regular Festivals attended during the year and a few extra if you are very keen!

## How to Enter:

Parents are responsible for entering their child for SOLO/DUET/TRIO routines and paying the required Entry Fee.

It varies from Festival to Festival but usually an entry form is available to download from the individual Festival Website. Sometimes BDS Festival Secretary receives the forms and issues them on request.

If entering a DUET/TRIO the Festival usually requires the oldest performer to complete the entry form.

If your child is in a Performance Group they will be entered by JULIE/HEIDI or the Festival Secretary and payment will be invoiced.

## Private Lessons

Once you have agreed to your child taking on a SOLO/DUET/TRIO Private Lessons will then be scheduled in order to learn the routine.

We usually advise that for a first time solo 6 x 30 minute sessions are required.

For subsequent new routines it will vary depending on the child and routine.

Before a Festival Julie and Heidi will want to see all routines and this will often take place in group sessions with other soloists etc

These Private Lessons will be invoiced separately.

Group Dances are taught in specific Performance Group lessons and invoiced accordingly.

### **Costumes**

Acquiring a suitable costume can happen in a number of ways:

Purchased on the Internet but **PLEASE CONSULT JULIE AND HEIDI BEFORE BUYING A COSTUME**

**Leibe Woolls is the designated parent who can order a costume for you as she can access the teacher discount code!**

Second Hand from older performers in the Festival Family. Costumes are often advertised on the Festival WhatsApp Group or FaceBook page.

You will be responsible for taking care of your costume and ensuring you bring it to all the Festivals.

Group Costumes are sourced, stored and transported by Julie/Heidi.

### **Hair**

Performers are responsible for their own hair at a Festival but help is always on hand from their peers and other parents!

Styles will be decided through consultation with Julie and Heidi.

Items to include in a Festival Hair Kit are:

Hair Spray

Hair Styling Gel/Spray

Hair Brush

Tail Comb

Clear Bands

Pins

Grips

Hair nets where appropriate

Some costumes come with hair accessories and often performers 'jazz' up their hair styles with gems, ribbons and colourful scrunchies.

### **Make up**

Make up is essential for a Festival so that the performers faces can be seen on the stage.

Once again the performer is responsible for their own make up but help is always on hand!

Make Up will consist of:

Natural Foundation and powder

Eyeshadow

Eyeliner

White eyeliner (not essential)

Blusher

Mascara  
Red Lipstick

**None of these items need to be expensive.**

Superdrug, Home Bargains are good places to pick up inexpensive make up.

We try and schedule a hair and make up session before a Festival IF POSSIBLE but please ASK if you need help with hair or make up. There is a Festival Make Up video which is circulated on the WhatsApp groups but please ask if you haven't seen it. There are also some videos available for certain hairstyles.

### **Music:**

Every solo/duet/trio performer needs a copy of their music on CD which they hand in to a designated place before the start of their competition. It is important that you also have a spare copy on CD and it is available on a connectable device should both CD's fail! (very unlikely but it has happened!)

### **At The Festival:**

A Timetable will be issued before the Festival so you know when to attend.

We usually advise that you arrive at least an hour before your competition class begins.

Arrive IN SUITABLE DANCE WEAR (leotard/joggers/leggings) TO BE ABLE TO PRACTICE- this is especially important if you are in a Performance Group as there will always be a rehearsal before putting on costumes!!

You do not need to wear full dance uniform but a BALLYHOO HOODY (zip up only for Festivals) is expected. Second hand hoodies are available- see above.

Link to Uniform Site <https://rockthedragon.co.uk/dance/ballyhoo/>

Parents/Carers/other family members will have to pay an Entry Fee and can purchase a programme which can sometimes be pre ordered on Entry Form.

Changing Room policies again vary from Festival to Festival. We usually advise one parent to be present with each performer but as the children get older they sometimes prefer to get ready without supervision! Obviously Fathers/male carers cannot enter a female changing room and there is always provision for boys with 'mums', girls with 'dads' etc.

Sometimes on rare occasions and perhaps in current climate of COVID 19, there may be a limit on number of adults in a changing room. This can often occur during a group competition. In this case, BDTs use our fully trained Chaperones to accompany the children in the Changing Rooms and en route to the performance area.

Each Festival runs slightly differently but usually the competitors wait on one side of the stage, sitting on chairs labelled with the number in which they will perform

(found in Programme). After their performance they then wait on chairs in same order on the other side of the stage.

When all competitors have performed they are then invited back onto the stage to await the judge's decision. (For Groups- 3/4 performers are chosen to represent the group). Each performer holds a number to remind the judge of their order!

The judge will then announce Third, Second and First and award medals.

Ribbons for these medals can usually be purchased from the Reception Desk of the Festival.

Certificates and Comments Sheets are usually available to collect 45-60 minutes after a class. However, Julie/Heidi usually ensure they collect these periodically during a Festival and any left are sent on to Festival Secretary at the end of a Festival.

### FESTIVAL SCHEDULE:

The Main Ones BDTs enter:

BRISTOL EISTEDDFORD- April (Easter Holidays)

CHELTENHAM- May (usually first couple of weeks)

GLOUCESTER- October (Half-Term)

### Others:

DEVIZES- February (first weekend)

WILTSHIRE- February (Half-Term)

NORTH SOMERSET- May (Half-Term)

PERSHORE- October (Half-Term)