

DANCE EDUCATION FOR DAYCARE PROGRAMS

BRINGING CREATIVE DANCE TO YOUNG CHILDREN CURRENTLY ENROLLED IN A DAYCARE PROGRAM.



“We love Swansea School of Dance! Miss Michelle and her instructors have created a beautiful space for dancers of all ages and skill levels to come and learn. Our family is very grateful to have SSOD in our community.”

– Catherine Watt

HOW DANCE EDUCATION CAN IMPROVE LEARNING

The introduction of dance programs to daycares can enrich the overall physical, emotional and cognitive development of every child. Dance not only teaches children about body movement, it also provides them with an opportunity to build upon social practices, performance skills, and self-awareness, while maintaining their propensity for observation and overall learning as they are continually developing physically, mentally and emotionally (YDE, 2010).

DANCE ALLOWS CHILDREN TO:

- Use different creative processes.
- Enhance problem-solving skills.
- Heighten student engagement and focus as it speaks to kinesthetic learners.
- Improve memory and recall through pattern repetition.
- Build a better sense of self and a positive body-image
- Learn the importance of engaging in physical activity for overall well-being.

Peer group interaction plays a crucial role in the development of social skills for children, especially for those at the preschool age (Lobo and Winsler, 2006).

Dance is inherently a peer group activity, whereby a class of children can share in both challenges and successes of learning how to dance. This helps children develop friendships and bonds as they interact and experience the world through movement (NDEO, 2005).

More specifically, dance helps build social competence by reinforcing concepts of self-control (i.e. in the form of turn taking); self-esteem (in the form of willingness to share ideas with classmates i.e.); and respect for others (in the form of hand holding and active group participation) (Lobo and Winsler, 2006).

Children are happy to interact with one another in a shared activity such as dance.

Working towards a common goal allows children to build meaningful relationships with others.

Dance in particular, helps promote a working understanding of group identity, cooperation, and awareness of others (Hache, N.D.).





HELPING CHILDREN DEVELOP POSITIVE SOCIAL SKILLS

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Below is an outline of the program we will be offering to children attending daycare. Our syllabus highlights body movement, locomotion, space, time, music, energy, motion and focus. We aim to build these concepts over the course of our sessions.

Class Format: Classes can be conducted on a weekly, monthly, or 'as needed' basis, the frequency determined by the institution. The schedule will be determined prior to the start of dance program to ensure that a progressive dance syllabus can be developed, one that is tailored to the specific needs of each group.

ABOUT OUR PROGRAM

Dance has the power to make everyone smile!

Each class will be between 20-60mins, the length determined by the institution in conjunction with the dance instructor.

Each class will allow a child to move and explore through a defined space, their learning enhanced with the use of various styles of music, songs, short stories and poems.

Although a strict dance syllabus or pedagogy will not be followed, elements of classical dance programs as established by formal teaching institutions, including the Royal Academy of Dance (R.A.D), will be used as building blocks from which a more creative based and spontaneous program will be executed.

Class Goals: In working alongside staff and students, we hope to bring early dance education to children in enrolled in daycare programs.

QUESTIONS ABOUT OUR PROGRAMS?

For further details about our programs, including fee and pricing information, availability, or how our program may be right for your institution, please direct your inquiries to our Office Manager at: info@swanseaschoolofdance.com
