



April 2020

email: weymouthdancefestival+admin@gmail.com

www.weymouthdancefestival.org

Dear Teacher,

Weymouth Dance Festival 2020

Please find enclosed the Syllabus and Entry Forms for the 2020 Festival which this year is to be held from 24 to 29 October.

COVID 19

Please note that the festival being held is subject to government restrictions being lifted suitably.

There are also a few changes to entry procedures this year as a result of COVID 19. We appreciate teachers will be unable to sign forms prior to entry so we have added a box for the student to declare who their teacher is and that they give permission for us to contact their teacher. When we have all entries we will contact the appropriate teachers with the names of students we have received entries from for them to give us their written permission for those students.

Secondly, we will only accept cheques and postal orders (P/Os) as payment this year. This is so that if the festival is unable to run we can securely destroy the cheques to avoid having to process refunds. If you wish to pay by P/O please include a stamped addressed envelope with your entry. If the Festival does not take place we will send you your P/O back so you can return it to the Post Office for a refund.

Please keep an eye on our Facebook page and website for updates relating to COVID 19 and any potential cancellation.

In addition to the above we will not be an All England Dance qualifier as was expected this year. This is due to All England postponing the competition by a year. We will now be a qualifier in 2021.

Please do still sign and return the Safeguarding Policy Declaration (enclosed) if you expect any of your students to enter. Your signature will be confirmation that you have made the policy available to parents/guardians/carers of all children under 18 and members of vulnerable groups.

Some of the rules have changed or been modified this year, so as always please read the rules carefully. In particular please pay attention to the change to the process in applying for teacher's passes. This year we require you to submit a passport style photo to print on the pass at the same time as applying for the pass. Without this no teacher's pass will be issued.

Please note that this year, following the change in the All England Dance rules, we have also made the change to combine the Lyrical Modern and the Modern section into just one Modern section. Entrants may dance either a Lyrical or a traditional Modern dance in the Modern section but they may only dance once.

We are accepting group entries without the individual group members' names.

Due to the popularity of the Dance Festival please note that in the event that the Festival is over-subscribed entries will be taken on a first come, first served basis. Entries will only be accepted from dance schools within a 75 mile radius.

Please could you remind any of your students who are holding trophies to return them to our Trophies Secretary, Alison Hunter, by 12 September 2020. Please nominate one person in your school to be your representative responsible for ensuring that any trophies awarded in 2019 are returned on time and in good condition. Please forward the name of your representative to Alison c/o the above email address.

Please send all entries to Mrs Jane Jeffries (address on entry form).

May we respectfully request that all teachers ensure that no electrical items are plugged into college sockets. We do not want to risk damaging the college electrical system and losing the venue. This is a condition of our contract with the College.

We still need volunteers to act as Stewards, without whom we cannot run the festival safely. Can you please ask parents if they could spare some time during the festival and let us know who they are and when they could help, even if only for one or two sessions over the six days. Each session will last three hours.

Our website is www.weymouthdancefestival.org and we also have a Facebook page. Festival material and forms are available on the website.

We hope you are all keeping safe and well in the current circumstances and we look forward to seeing you at the Festival. In the meantime if you have any queries please do not hesitate to contact either June or myself at the above email address.

Yours sincerely

Tamara Collier (Festival secretary)