

INDEPENDENT DANCE STUDIOS



VCE Dance Prospectus

INDEPENDENT DANCE STUDIOS

The pursuit of excellence starts here...

Independent Dance Studios - IDS (formerly Contemporary Independent Dance) provides dance tuition of the highest standard for girls and boys aged two through to adult.

Our ethos "Nurture, Inspire, Excel" is evident in everything we do. We are immensely proud of our reputation within the dance community - one of strength, professionalism and excellence.

At IDS we are committed to ensuring that every student has the opportunity to develop strong dance technique, realise their full potential and goals and receive consistent dance training of the highest standard.

Above all, we instil a love for dance.

The school caters to students of all ages and commitment levels, from students wishing to participate in one or two classes a week right through to part time students partaking in our Half Day Classical Extension Program.

Students of IDS have been accepted into prestigious dance programs including: The Victorian College of the Arts (VCA), The Australian Ballet School, The National Theatre Ballet School, The Australian Conservatoire of Ballet, Studio Tibor Sydney, The Victorian College of the Arts Secondary School (VCASS), Spectrum, The Queensland University of Technology, The Russian Choreographic Academy, Transit Dance and many more.

OUR STATEMENT OF PURPOSE

IDS's **mission** is to create strong, versatile, passionate and technical dancers who respect and love dance.

Our **vision** is to provide exceptional tuition, that not only builds solid technical foundations, but most importantly fosters a love for dance.

Our **goal** is to provide an environment where students can create life-long friendships, build lasting memories, and mature in a community atmosphere, whilst developing solid technique.

Our **values** underpin all that we do. Each member of our community is encouraged to display attributes of respect, dedication, commitment, sportsmanship, friendliness, focus, hard-work and courage.

You can read testimonials from our IDS families, past and present, via www.independentdance.com.au/Testimonials

*All images included herein are of current or past students. No stock images are used. All images remain the property of IDS and may not be reproduced without permission.



WHAT IS VCE DANCE?

Develop an appreciation of dance through exploration

VCE Dance is a subject that is part of the Victorian State Certificate (VCE) available to high school students in Years 10-12.

It provides opportunities for students in Years 10-12 to explore the potential of movement as a means of creative expression and communication. The study is designed to develop students' understanding and appreciation of dance.

In VCE Dance students create and perform their own dance works as well as studying the dance works of others through performance and analysis. In each unit, students undertake regular and systematic dance training to develop their physical skills and advance their ability to execute a diverse range of expressive movements.

Students also develop and refine their choreographic skills by exploring personal and learnt movement vocabularies. They study ways other choreographers have created and arranged movement to communicate an intention and create their own dance works. Students perform learnt solo and group dance works and their own works. They also analyse ways that ideas are communicated through dance and how dance styles, traditions and works can influence dance practice, the arts, artists and society more generally.

WHY STUDY DANCE? WHERE CAN IT LEAD YOU?

- Continue further dance training or studies
- Performing (professional shows, cruise ships, theatre, theme parks)
- Teaching (pre-school, primary school, secondary school, dance schools/programs)
- Theatre Production (backstage technicians, lighting, set design, costume making)
- Dance Nutritionist
- Dance Physiotherapist
- Credit for University Entry

VCE DANCE STUDENTS LEARN TO:

- Work with others
- Follow direction
- Self-motivate
- Apply suitable attire, hair and makeup
- Adapt quickly to changes
- Gain self confidence

VCE Dance study is designed to develop a broad understanding and appreciation of dance through the integration of practical and theoretical aspects of learning in the context of composition and performance.

Students develop and refine their technical and compositional skills by exploring a personal and learned movement vocabulary and ways in which ideas are communicated in their own dance, and that of others.

The study is designed to develop an appreciation of dance and explores, the relationship between body and movement, the elements of movement, the elements of dance design, different approaches to choreography, dance history, human anatomy and safe dance practice. Units 1,2,3 & 4 modules cover; Principles of Choreography, Technique Solo, Composition Solo, Learnt Group Dance, Applied Anatomy, Dance History, Dance Analysis.



VCE DANCE AT IDS

Available to internal and external students in Years 10 - 12

IDS is proud to provide VCE Dance classes for senior students studying their Victorian State Certificate (VCE).

The IDS VCE Dance Program operates during Terms 1 - 4 of the school year, involving 350+ hours of training, undertaken over two years. Students are required to attend practical dance classes in a minimum of two styles per week as well as attend special VCE theory work classes held at the IDS studios with a fully-registered VCAA Teacher.

Some of the benefits of undertaking VCE Dance at IDS include:

- Dancing among like-minded, experienced and dedicated dancers
- Students will enjoy state-of-the-art, purpose built dance facilities
- Supportive and experienced VCE Dance Teachers and access to working professional dancers/Teachers
- Weekly access to large, spacious rehearsal spaces
- Access to costume, props and resource libraries

VCE Dance is a core offering at IDS which ensures our Senior students have the best opportunity to study the subject in a focused, encouraging environment. This is proven to enhance VCE results which attribute to the student's individual ATAR score, whilst provide enriching learning opportunities.

FREQUENTLY ASKED QUESTIONS

Are there prerequisites for enrollment?

There's no prerequisites for entry into Units 1,2 or 3, however students must complete Unit 3 prior to commencing Unit 4.

How long does it run?

VCE Dance at IDS runs over two years (to complete Units 1 -4) and each year classes operate during the School Terms.

Where are classes held?

At Independent Dance Studio's state-of-the-art facilities - 117 Wedgewood Road, Hallam VIC 3803.

What days are VCE Dance held at IDS?

In 2019 VCE Dance classes are held on Wednesdays and Fridays.

Is there a uniform?

No - there is not a set IDS uniform for VCE Dance. General dance attire or athletic-wear is suitable.

What costs are involved?

An annual School Enrolment Fee of \$40 per student is payable to secure your place in the VCE Dance Program upon enrollment. Other fees include class dance fees for Wednesdays and Fridays. See Fee Structure page for full details.

Are course materials provided?

Yes - a copy of the VCAA Dance Study Design (2019-2023) is provided upon enrollment and specific classwork is assigned by the Teacher.

Can I dance elsewhere while studying VCE Dance at IDS?

Yes - however you must commit to the scheduled VCE Classes at IDS first and foremost, which attribute to your overall VCE marks. You are welcome to continue your other dance training wherever you choose.



VCE DANCE AT IDS

Dance is the language of movement

ENTRY

There are no prerequisites for Units 1,2 and 3. Students MUST undertake Unit 3 prior to undertaking Unit 4. It is recommended that students have at least 3- 4 years prior dance/movement experience before beginning VCE Dance.

Commencement of the program at IDS each year, is dependent on an adequate number of students enrolling.

WORKING IN PARTNERSHIP WITH YOUR SECONDARY SCHOOL

IDS is a Single Study Provider (SSP) of VCE Dance with all curriculum and assessment components being taught at IDS by a fully-accredited VCE Dance Teacher approved by VCAA.

The student's secondary school is responsible for enrolling their student with the VCAA and for entering students results on VASS according to VCAA timelines. The IDS VCE Faculty will ensure open lines of communication between the student's 'Home' School by producing a Memorandum of Understanding (MOU) document.

IDS will provide an VCAA-approved MOU template for families/students to share with their secondary school to obtain a partnership agreement. This MOU agreement will outline and clarify the roles and responsibilities of all parties involved in delivering the VCE Dance course-work and assessments, in line with VCAA requirements.

The signing of the MOU by IDS's Director (or the appointed nominee) and the secondary school's Principal/VCE Coordinator (or the appointed nominee) formalises the partnerships agreement.

ASSESSMENT

Assessments are delivered in line with VCAA requirements and in conjunction with the student's 'Home School.

Units 1 & 2

Graded school-based tasks including SACS will be assessed.

Practical performances are internally reviewed.

Units 3 & 4

School assessed course work - 25%

Performance examination - 50% (made up of 2 solos)

Written examination - 25%

Further information about IDS classes/school structure can be found in our current year's School Prospectus, available via www.independentdance.com.au

VCE TEACHING FACULTY

Learn from our inspiring, experienced teaching team



DANIELLE TAYLOR

IDS VCE Dance Educator and Teacher

Danielle Taylor is an experienced educator and dance specialist who's wealth of knowledge and teaching studies have earned her many accolades.

Miss Danielle has completed a Bachelor of Secondary Teaching/Arts with Deakin University, majoring in Dance/Drama and English Literature, while also undertaking and completing her Certificate IV in Dance Teaching and Management with Transit Dance.

She is the Director of Dance Dream Academy in Mount Waverley and has been responsible for the delivery and creation of VCE Dance across several institutions and studios, including Sacred Heart College and Ashwood College.

Danielle is a registered Nurse (upholding a Level 2 First Aid) and a practising Dance Teacher with a passion for inspiring the next generation of artists.

Danielle Taylor is a Professional Affiliate Member of the Australian Teachers of Dancing (ATOD). She has also completed VCE Dance as a student with great success, which in part inspired her to pursue further education and develop herself as a dancer.

As an educator Danielle's aim is to deliver best-practice VCE Dance training to dedicated students in an supportive, inspiring environment.



NICOLE JACOBSSON-KNEEBONE

IDS Artistic Director and Principal

Trained in Australia's classical hub (Ballarat) from the age of three, Nicole studied Classical ballet (RAD, Cecchetti and BMAAD), Jazz, Contemporary and Tap (ATOD) at the Terri-Maree Dance Academy and Anita Coutts School of Dance. Nicole later studied a Bachelor of Dance and Drama at Deakin University before being accepted in 2002 into the Bachelor of Dance course at the Victorian College of the Arts (VCA) where she majored in contemporary/classical dance and choreography.

During her high school years, Nicole studied and completed VCE Dance Units 1 - 4 achieving outstanding results. Nicole was selected to perform her VCE composition solo 'The Matriarch', at Top Class and Top Acts performances, as one of just 6 finalists on the prestigious State Theatre Stage.

After completing her Bachelor and pursuing an extensive career in freelance teaching, performing and competing throughout Victoria, Nicole founded Independent Dance Studios (formerly Contemporary Independent Dance) in early February 2009.

For over three decades Nicole has dedicated her life to dance, enabling many dedicated students to pursue dance as a career and lifelong passion. Nicole looks forward to supporting her senior students through this imperative time in their young lives and providing a supportive environment for each dancer to excel during their VCE Dance studies.



STATE OF THE ART FACILITIES

Spectacular world-class studios

IDS's impeccable, purpose-built studios are conveniently housed under one roof located in Hallam.

We proudly provide the highest quality and safest dance space in Melbourne's South East region. VCE Dance students enjoy the benefits of our safe, spacious class and rehearsal spaces.

Facility features include:

- Three spectacular fully-equipped dance studios
- Safe dance-engineered, fully sprung, premium Tarkett™ dance floors throughout
- 3.2m high wall to wall mirrors throughout
- Double fitted barres throughout
- Premium-lined full length examination/performance curtains in Studio One
- Climate control and superb high tech sound systems throughout
- Separate boys and girls change rooms with private cubicles
- Student access-only areas for comfort and safety
- Half Day Program lockers
- Kitchen/lunch room
- Private staff room
- Merchandise wall
- A canteen that is more like a café
- 24 hour monitored security surveillance
- Viewing windows and glass doors to all studios
- In studio hi-definition television for educational purposes
- Equipment including Acro/Pilates mats, foam blocks, rollers, Thera bands, fit balls, leg weights etc.
- On-site props storage area
- On-site costuming wardrobe
- Spacious waiting area with heating/cooling
- Ample off-street car parking
- Close to train station and amenities (just 5 minutes to Westfield Fountain Gate/Bunjil Place Theatre).

Private appointments available by contacting info@independentdance.com.au / 0438 350 561



VCE DANCE FEES

Affordable VCE Dance education

Students who elect to undertake VCE Dance at IDS in 2019 are committing to completing Units 1 & 2 and the fee for each Unit is due and payable at the start of each Unit.

Classes are held on Wednesdays with our fully-qualified and registered VCE Dance Teacher and include 1 hour of independent theory and practical rehearsal time.

FEES & DUE DATES

Fees for the Wednesday VCE class are as follows:

\$40 per class

*including 3 hours of theory and practical work per week.

Unit 1 - Due February 2019 (includes 19 weeks \$760 +GST)

Unit 2 - Due July 2019 (includes 19 weeks \$760 + GST)

Unit 3 & 4 - Due 2020 (weeks/costs TBA)

In addition to the above VCE Fees, students must also undertake two technique classes on a Friday (in the two genre's of their choice - jazz, lyrical, contemporary) which contributes to their technique training towards VCE.

Please see the IDS School Prospectus for further details.

IDS ANNUAL STUDENT ENROLMENT FEE

Our annual Enrolment Fee is \$40 per student. This fee covers administration set up, public liability insurance, AMCOS/APRA music insurances and reserves an individual space within classes at IDS. This fee is non-refundable.

CONDITIONS FOR EXTERNAL (NON-IDS) STUDENTS

**If a student chooses to undertake their technique classes at another dance school, they must seek approval and permission from IDS Director, Nicole Jacobsson-Kneebone, in writing first. If this permission is granted an additional fee of \$100 per Unit will apply to cover the extra facilitator liaison / coordination / administration between schools.

Fees are subject to change.



Nicole Jacobsson-Kneebone
Artistic Director & Principal

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