



Ballet Art Katoomba

2024 Information Pack

Ballet Art Katoomba specialises in teaching classical ballet and contemporary dance to students of all ages, from toddler to adult, teaching correct technique in a positive, supportive and nurturing environment.

Welcome from our Principal, Miss Courtney

Welcome to Ballet Art Katoomba. Thank you for your interest in joining our dance school.

I teach our Little Leapers, Preschoolers, Pre-Primary and Primary students. As well as teaching I am always busy behind the scenes and will be your main point of contact throughout the year.

Joining myself on the teaching staff are our wonderful teachers: Miss Sue, Miss Natalie and Miss Fiona. See below for more information about our teachers and what classes they teach. Ballet Art Katoomba aims to provide a positive dance experience while delivering excellence in dance teaching and we do this by:

- teaching our students correct technique while nurturing their love of dance
- having the student's personal growth and development at the heart of our teaching
- providing qualified and experienced teaching staff

I look forward to meeting you soon. If you have any questions, please feel free to get in touch via email: admin@balletkatoomba.com

Miss Courtney

2024 Timetable

	Studio 1		Studio 2
Tuesday			
4:00 – 5:00	Grade 5		
5:00 – 5:45	Junior Conditioning		
5:45 – 7:00	Grade 6		
7:00 – 8:15	Open Class		
Wednesday			
9:15 – 9:45	Little Leapers		
10:00 – 10:30	Preschooler Ballet		
3:30 – 4:30	Grade 1		
4:30 – 5:30	Grade 3	4:15 – 5:15	Junior Contemporary
5:30 – 6:30	Grade 5	6:15 – 7:15	Senior Contemporary
Thursday			
11:00 – 12:00	Adult Class		
12:00 – 12:30	Adult Class Extension		
4:00 – 5:00	Grade 4		
5:00 – 6:00	Advanced 1		
6:00 – 6:45	Senior Conditioning		
6:45 – 7:45	Adv Syllabus Programme		
Saturday			
10:00 – 10:30	Preschooler Ballet	10:00 – 11:00	Grade 1
10:45 – 11:15	Pre-Primary	11:00 – 12:00	Grade 3
11:30 – 12:15	Primary	12:00 – 1:00	Grade 4
		1:00 – 2:15	Grade 6
		2:45 – 3:45	Advanced 1
		3:45 – 4:45	Adv Syllabus Programme

Miss Sue	Miss Courtney	Miss Natalie	Miss Fiona
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Teachers for 2024

Miss Courtney

Principal and Classical Ballet

Born and raised in the Blue Mountains Courtney has been studying ballet since the age of four. Courtney has studied various syllabi including Borovansky, Cecchetti and RAD. At fifteen Courtney studied dance full-time with Susan Weule and Garth Welch in Leura. Courtney has achieved her Advanced 1 in both RAD and Borovansky with Honours and completed her teachers training in the Borovansky Syllabus receiving her associate diploma in 2013 and her licentiate diploma in 2018. Courtney is currently a member of the NSW branch of the Australian Institute of Classical Dance (AICD).

During her training Courtney has studied various styles of dance including classical ballet, character, repertoire, contemporary and jazz. In 2009 and 2010 Courtney successfully auditioned for Quantum Leap Youth Dance Company in Canberra and in 2014 Courtney entered Serenity, a self-choreographed piece, in the Short and Sweet Contemporary Dance Festival in Sydney.

In addition to studying dance, Courtney did further studies achieving a University Certificate in Health and Rehabilitation Science, this enabled her to further her knowledge of the body and muscle systems. Since becoming principal of Ballet Art Katoomba she has also started her own family and now has two beautiful young children.

Miss Sue

Classical Ballet and Conditioning

Susan has been teaching ballet in the Blue Mountains for the past 28 years. Prior to that she taught for (and trained at) Ecole Classique, under the tutelage of Prudence Bowen. Susan has a licentiate diploma through the Australian Institute of Classical Dance (AICD) in addition to a Certificate IV in Pilates Matwork and Reformer.

Susan's former students have:

- received full scholarships to The Royal Ballet School; The English National School; Ben Stevenson Academy (Houston); Heinz-Bosl Stiftung (Munich) and Ecole Superieure (Cannes).
- been accepted into The Australian Ballet School; New Zealand School of Dance; Scottish Ballet School; Pittsburgh Ballet Theatre; Western Australian Academy of Performing Arts; Victorian College of the Arts and London Central.
- danced with The Australian Ballet Company; LoCreado Dance Company; Opera Australia; Croatian National Theatre Company; Bangarra and Atlantic Southeast Ballet (Charleston).
- been awarded \$20,000 Mollie Askin travelling Scholarship; RAD \$5,000 Bursary (x2); Cecchetti \$7,000 Scholarship; Isobel Anderson awards; Finalist selections for the Sydney Scholarship and Semi-finalist Prix de Lausanne.

Susan has staged full-length productions of Peter Pan; Thumbelina; Cinderella; Wizard of Oz and The Nutcracker.

Susan is passionate about teaching ballet and dedicated to each of her students. Her primary goal (and satisfaction) is to help develop a love of ballet in her students.



Miss Natalie *Contemporary Dance*

Natalie began taking ballet classes at the age of 5 with Fiona James' Classical and Contemporary Dance, continuing to take lessons from her throughout her school years. During this time Natalie completed her RAD Grade 8 and Advanced Foundation exams, as well as studying contemporary dance where she performed and choreographed for local festivals and concerts.

Having lived in the Blue Mountains her whole life, Natalie went to Penrith High School where she became a Dance Leader, choreographing and teaching dance to fellow students in preparation for dance festivals, competitions and local performances. Natalie has taught both contemporary and ballet at Katoomba Dance Theatre prior to joining the teaching staff at Ballet Art Katoomba.

Natalie has recently completed her Certificate IV in Dance Teaching and Management and Borovansky Associate Diploma. She continues to take classes to maintain and expand her knowledge of the art form. She has also completed her Bachelor of Design in Interior and Spatial Design in 2016 and is currently working in the industry.

Miss Fiona *Adult Ballet*

Fiona has 50 years' experience as a performer and 20 years' experience as a teacher. She trained in classical ballet to the advanced levels, then took a sideways step and achieved qualifications in Science. While working in medical research for many years, she maintained her love of dance by taking classes and performing with the Bodenweiser Dance Studio, the premier contemporary dance venue in Sydney at that time.

After becoming a mother to 4 she gained her teaching qualification with the Royal Academy of Dance with distinction in 2003 and managed her own dance school from 1999 – 2015. She has since been teaching adult ballet classes for Rosatutu Dance Studio and a Seniors Contemporary dance group for Penrith Council and the Joan Sutherland Centre.



2024 Term Dates

Term 1: Mon 5th Feb – Sat 13th April*

Term 2: Mon 29th April – Sat 6th July

Term 3: Mon 22nd July – Sat 28th Sept

Term 4: Mon 14th Oct – TBC

*No Classes Sat 30th March due to Easter Saturday





Little Leapers is a Grown Up and Me program for children aged 18 months to 3 years and a special grown up in their life

About Little Leapers

Through the magic of movement and music, our classes celebrate the little wins and milestones that make these years so precious. Whether flying in outer space, going to the circus, playing in the park, dancing like zoo animals, or growing a magical garden, children will be captivated when they attend a Little Leapers class at Ballet Art Katoomba.

Why Choose Little Leapers

We're all about introducing the newest generation of dancers to the wonder, joy and fulfilment of movement, music and make-believe. Grown Up and Me classes are perfect for parents and carers who are looking to fill their days, get out of the house, and introduce their little ones to new experiences. Little Leapers is loved by mums, dads, grandmas, grandpas, aunts, uncles, and carers! Our classes are a gentle and positive way to try new things, meet new people, and learn about the world around them.

Supporting your Child's Development

The first three years of a child's life is an important period of growth, exploration and wonder. At Ballet Art Katoomba we support children's physical, cognitive, social and emotional development through the magic of play and make-believe. By situating learning in fun and imaginative settings, Little Leapers lessons set up children for success – in the studio and in life!





Students in our **Preschooler, Pre-Primary** and **Primary** classes learn the Leap 'N' Learn method of dance

Start your Child's Dance Journey on the Right Foot

We provide our youngest dancers with safe, developmentally appropriate and engaging lessons that build strong foundations and inspire a love of dance. Our whole child approach to dance means that each lesson is carefully crafted to support your child's physical, cognitive, social and emotional development, all through the magic of pretend play, music and movement. Ballet Art Katoomba provides a positive, nurturing learning environment for all students and we'd love to invite you to join our classes!

Kids Learn through Play

We know that children learn best through play. At Ballet Art Katoomba we expertly weave playful scenarios and prop use into each and every exercise, so that kids are engaged, excited and develop a lifelong love of learning. When you choose Ballet Art Katoomba you know your child's teachers are equipped with the knowledge and skills to teach highly educational, engaging and exciting classes that teach so much more than dance.

Our Whole Child Approach

Physical

At Ballet Art Katoomba your child will develop coordination, balance, strength, flexibility and motor planning skills. Children develop gross and fine motor skills through repetition, but that doesn't mean it has to be boring. We keep things fresh with age-appropriate, engaging exercises that children love!

Social and Emotional

Leap 'N' Learn classes support school readiness goals through explicit development of social and emotional skills. Alongside turn-taking and sharing, students become familiar with the structure of a lesson and get used to taking instructions from an adult outside of their family unit. Each lesson actively promotes communication, curiosity, emotional awareness, and empathy, which are linked to greater chance of academic and social success.

Cognitive

Unlike other programs, Leap 'N' Learn isn't a "monkey-see, monkey-do" type of dance class. Our classes cleverly and playfully support children's cognitive development. Through age-appropriate challenges and carefully sequenced programming, your child will learn conceptual skills (like size, levels, speed, direction, pathways), shape, number, colour and pattern recognition as well as developing linguistic skills and their ability to recall movements and sequences.





Australian Institute of Classical Dance **Borovansky Syllabus**

Students in **Grade 1 through to Advanced 1**
learn the Borovansky Syllabus

Origins of the Syllabus

Ballet Art Katoomba teach the Borovansky syllabus, which passes on the training traditions of the Russian method of Classical Ballet. The syllabus originated from the school of Xenia Borovansky who was the Russian born wife of Edouard Borovansky. Edouard was the founder of the Borovansky Ballet Company, precursor of the current, internationally acclaimed, Australian Ballet Company.

Aims of the Borovansky Syllabus

The Borovansky syllabus aims to foster and develop a love of dance and an awareness of ballet as a performing art in both the recreational and vocational student. Dance quality, style, expressiveness and musicality are encouraged from the beginning, and are progressively developed. Character dance steps are integrated into the syllabus, reflecting the syllabus' heritage in the Borovansky Ballet Company, famed for its wholehearted vigorous approach to national dance.

Exams and Assessments

Students may participate in either a ballet exam or assessment. While exams and assessments are optional, they are strongly encouraged as they give the students something to work towards and a sense of achievement. These are held annually towards the end of term 3.

Syllabus Classes

Grade 1 students participate in one ballet class per week. Students in Grade 3 and above attend two syllabus classes per week. Students in Grade 4 and above have the option to attend additional classes to complement their syllabus training.



Additional Classes for Grade 4 and above

Contemporary Classes

Junior Contemporary – Grade 4-6

Senior Contemporary – Advanced 1 and above

Contemporary dance is based on ballet technique although with a freer range of movement. Students explore the full ranges of movement of their bodies through centre practice, floor work and more dynamic sequences around the room. Students will also discover improvisation and choreography.

Conditioning Classes

Junior Conditioning – Grade 5 and 6

Senior Conditioning – Advanced 1 and above

Our conditioning classes are Pilates based classes designed specifically for dancers to help with strength and flexibility for ballet. This class is important for all students in Grade 5 and above however it is a requirement for any female students wishing to progress onto pointe. These classes are highly beneficial for both exam and recreational students.

Open Class

Advanced 1 and above

An open class utilises the steps students have learnt throughout their syllabus work however the exercises are different. The exercises are choreographed by the teacher and remain the same for three weeks before changing to a new class. This helps build students ability to pick up choreography quickly and gives them a chance to work on the exercises before moving on to new exercises.

Open classes are what students do when they finish learning syllabus. Open classes take all the steps and knowledge students have learnt and allows them to do ballet for fun and fitness. Students can continue participating in open classes when they head off to Uni or later in life. If students are working towards a professional career open classes are an important part of a dancer's routine.

Advanced Syllabus Programme

For students who completed either Adv 1 or Adv 2 in 2023

A class choreographed by Miss Sue designed to challenge and improve students' technique and ability. Students will work on the exercises throughout the first three terms culminating with the opportunity to participate in an in-house assessment towards the end of Term 3.

Private Lessons

Private lessons are available for students wishing to further their training by working on a solo to be performed at eisteddfods throughout the year. If you are interested in a private lesson, please email Miss Courtney.



Fee Information 2024 Fees

All prices are inclusive of GST. Fees are per term and vary according to how many weeks in the term. An annual insurance and administration levy is charged to each student on enrolment. This is \$30 per student or \$50 per family.

<i>Little Leapers</i>	\$140 for 10 week term
<i>Preschoolers</i>	\$140 for 10 week term
<i>Pre-Primary</i>	\$140 for 10 week term
<i>Primary</i>	\$160 for 10 week term
<i>Grade 1</i>	\$180 for 10 week term

**We accept the new
Active and Creative Kids
Vouchers, worth up to
\$100 off fees.**



Grade 3 – Grade 5	Total	Discount	Total Payable
No of classes per week (per student)	(10 week term)		
Syllabus Only Package (2x 1hr Classes)	\$360	5%	\$342
Add ons – Syllabus Package plus:			
Junior Conditioning Class only	\$520	5%	\$494
Contemporary Class only	\$540	5%	\$513
Both Conditioning and Contemporary	\$700	10%	\$630

Grade 6	Total	Discount	Total Payable
No of classes per week (per student)	(10 week term)		
Syllabus Only Package (2x 1.25hr Classes)	\$450	5%	\$427.50
Add ons – Syllabus Package plus:			
Junior Conditioning Class only	\$610	5%	\$579.50
Contemporary Class only	\$630	5%	\$598.50
Both Conditioning and Contemporary	\$790	10%	\$711

Advanced 1 and Adv Syllabus Programme	Total Price	Discount	Total Payable
No of classes per week (per student)	(10 week term)		
Syllabus Package (2x syllabus classes plus conditioning)	\$520	5%	\$494
Add ons – Syllabus Package plus:			
Open Class only	\$745	10%	\$670.50
Contemporary Class only	\$700	10%	\$630
Both Open and Contemporary	\$925	15%	\$786.25

Open and Adult Classes	Total Price
Prices below are for one class per week only	(10 week term)
Adult - 1hr Class	\$180
Adult - 1.5hr Class	\$270
Open - 1.25hr Class	\$225

Private Lessons	Total Payable
\$40 per ½ hour	\$400



Fee Policy

- Invoices are sent out at the beginning of each term; payment is due within two weeks.
- Payment can be made by direct deposit or cash (direct deposit payments are preferred). Cash payments must be given to a member of staff in an envelope clearly marked with the student's full name and class. Loose cash payments will not be accepted.
- We understand that families may experience financial difficulties from time to time. If you are unable to pay in a lump sum, please contact us to arrange a payment plan.
- If payment has not been received by the due date you will receive a reminder email. If payment has not been received by the end of the third week, a \$25 late fee will be added to your account. If you have only made a partial payment towards the account without getting in touch to set up a payment plan, then the full late fee will be added.
- If a payment plan has been set up payments must be made on time. If payments are late your account will have the full late fee added.
- If no payment has been received within a week after the late fee is added your child will be unable to participate in classes until payment has been received in full (no concessions will be made on the invoice for the lessons your child has been unable to participate).
- Enrolment is for the calendar year. Fees are paid per term.
- Missed classes will not be refunded or credited, however students may make-up any missed classes by attending the class above or below their grade.
- Classes are not held on Public Holidays. For students who attend two or more classes per week and are on a fee package, any classes missed due to a public holiday will not be refunded or credited however students may make-up any missed classes by attending the class above or below their grade. For students who attend just one class per week, any classes that fall on a public holiday will not be charged.
- In the case of extreme weather conditions (including but not limited to snow or fire) classes may need to be cancelled for the safety of our students and teachers. In these situations, classes will not be refunded or credited although students are welcome to attend another class for a make-up lesson.
- In the case of government closures classes will continue on Zoom. If you need to put your child's enrolment on hold while classes are online, you must email us before their first online class. If an email is received, we will credit fees towards future in person classes. If an email is not received classes must be paid for as normal.
- We offer a 10% family discount (applied to the youngest student's fee package only; only one discount per student is valid). Please note this discount applies to class fees only and excludes private lessons and uniform items.

Private Lessons

- Private lessons must be pre-paid at the beginning of each term. If your child will be unable to attend their regular private lesson, it is your responsibility to give Miss Courtney 24hrs notice or the full fee will be charged. If adequate notice is given, we will try to either arrange another time for the private or we will credit the private towards the following terms fees.
- Outstanding invoices may result in your child's private lessons being cancelled and their timeslot being reallocated. If too many privates are missed they may be unable to participate in eisteddfods.



How to Enrol

To secure your child's spot please return the 2024 enrolment form. If you would like to enrol more than one student, you may enter the details for all students using the one enrolment form. Return the completed form by email and you will receive a reply confirming your enrolment. If the class has reached capacity, we will contact you to discuss options.

Uniform

For your convenience, all uniform items are available to purchase from the studio. Students wear the same colour leotard and skirt. Pre-Primary and Primary are in light blue; Grade 1,2 and 3 wear cornflower blue; Grade 4, 5 and 6 are in all navy blue and our majors (Adv 1 and Adv Syllabus Programme) wear Boysenberry.



There is no uniform for little leaper and preschooler students, they are welcome to wear anything comfortable they can move in. Ballet shoes are available to purchase from the studio although bare feet are also fine.

Annual Ballet Concert

Ballet Art Katoomba has an annual end of year performance which is designed to be of minimum stress and expense for parents while providing children with the opportunity to perform on stage. Our concert is held on the last Saturday of term 4. Costumes for the concert are hired from the school.

