

Grey Bruce School of Dance Policies As of August 2020

MISSION STATEMENT

Recreational

The Grey Bruce School of Dance is a reputable dance school in Hanover, ON which focuses on a disciplined, yet fun, environment. The primary function of this organization is to provide dance instruction to the residents of Hanover, Brockton, West Grey, and surrounding area. We recognize the importance of technique and creativity and strive to maintain high quality instruction through our experienced teachers. Our goal is to enhance the artistic quality of the region by providing affordable dance classes to children, teens and adults. We are able to enrich and broaden the lives of our students through several forms of dance. Our students develop co-ordination, posture and a sense of rhythm. We hope to produce dedicated, disciplined dancers who possess an overall joy of moving to and interpreting music through their love of dance. We do not over-emphasize the importance of exams or competition, but rather, a love of the art of dance for its own sake. This school is directed by dedicated parent volunteers and has served the community for over 50 years by providing a progressive venue of quality dance instruction. We firmly believe that dance is a universal art form, which should be available to anyone regardless of size, age or talent.

Competitive

We, here at GBSD offer our students the opportunity to dance competitive. The intention for the Competition Dance Team is simple: to provide these dancers with opportunities beyond the four walls of their studio, to inspire, to motivate, to challenge, and to enrich each one of them. "Competition" is not just about winning as winning is the least important thing. It is about inspiring and striving to be the best you can be, developing lasting friendships and about sharing your passion. It is our hope that our competitive students will realize that authentic success comes not only from reaching or exceeding their specific performance goals, but with the satisfaction of knowing they have done their best.

Global Pandemic Clause

In the event of a Global Pandemic and the school must close prior to the season end. The executive has the right to make necessary changes, to ensure to successful operation and continuation of the school.

REGISTRATION

Recreational

At registration dates, completed forms accompanied by payment, will be numbered by the Registrar. Students will be accommodated in order of registration number. Anyone seeking registration after registration dates must do so by contacting the GBSD studio by phone or email, who will inform the President and the appropriate teacher. These registrations will be accepted based on availability until November 1st. After this date, there will be no further registrations accepted.

All forms must be in before first class or the student will not be permitted to participate.

Full payment must be received by Feb 28th of that dance season or the dancer(s) may not be permitted to return to the Grey Bruce School of Dance class after Feb 28th. Financial arrangements may be made with the Treasurer.

Anyone who writes two or more NSF cheques to the Grey Bruce School of Dance will no longer be permitted to pay by cheque; they will be permitted to only pay by cash, money order or certified cheque. Anyone with an outstanding debt to the Grey Bruce School of Dance must clear that debt in cash, money order or certified cheque before a registration is accepted for the current season. No cheques will be issued to teachers until class lists, First Aid certificates and documents are provided to the Treasurer.

Annual registration fees can be set outside of the Annual General Meeting by the current executive.

Competitive

Registration will have a deadline of August 30th. Full payment must be received by Feb 28th of that dance season.

REFUNDS

Recreational

Students of the Grey Bruce School of Dance may qualify for a full refund, less 20% administration fee, within a 6-week trial period. A formal written request must be submitted to the executive.

If refund request is due to a medical reason, a refund can be given,

cost of class divided by the number of guaranteed classes multiplied by classes taken subtracted by total cost

Competitive

No refunds will be issued if attendance policy has been enforced and if dancer had participated in any classes.

MINIMUM AGE/ REQUIREMENTS

Recreational

Mini Crew registrants must be two (2) years of age by December 31st of the dance year.

Kinderdanzz and Kinder Ballet registrants must be three (3) years of age by December 31st of the dance year.

Dancers must be four (4) years of age by December 31st of the dance year, and have had one year of Kinderdanzz experience to enter into any other dance form or be five (5) by December 31st of the dance year.

Boys Class registrants must be four (4) years of age by December 31st of the dance year, and have had one year of Kinderdanzz experience or be five (5) by December 31st of the dance year.

Hip Hop students must be five (5) by December 31st of the dance year.

Acro Technique students must be seven (7) by December 31st of the dance year and be enrolled in jazz, technique or ballet or enrolled at the discretion of the teacher.

Acro students must be five (5) by December 31 of the dance year.

Musical Theatre students must be nine (9) by December 31st of the dance year.

Contemporary students must be seven (7) by December 31st of the dance year

Technique students must be seven (7) years of age by December 31st of the dance year.

Ballet Technique students must be seven (7) years of age by December 31st of the dance year.

Pointe class registrants will be accepted only with the approval of the teacher and they must be enrolled in a Ballet class.

Competitive program must be seven (7) years of age by December 31st of the dance year, and be enrolled in the GBSD recreational program.

Teacher Assistants will be chosen by class teacher, and approved by the GBSD executive.

NUMBER OF CLASSES

Recreational

Teachers of the Grey Bruce School of Dance are required to provide a minimum of twenty-six (26) recreational instructional classes. Dress rehearsal, finale rehearsal, recital days and the last class following the recital cannot be included as instructional classes. A maximum of 30 classes are permitted per season, anything over 30 requires executive approval beforehand.

Competitive

GBSD Competitive is required to provide a minimum of twenty-seven (27) classes, one (1) technique class, two (2) choreography days and one (1) dress rehearsal off site that will be determined prior to the start of the season, and a minimal of three (3) competitions a dance season.

CLASS SIZE

Minimum class size is five (5) unless approved by the executive. If a class size is less than three (3), and approved by the executive, class time will be reduced to thirty (30) minutes from the regular forty-five (45) minutes.

Maximum class size for Mini Crew is seven (7).

Maximum class size for Kinderdanz and KinderBallet is eight (8).

Maximum class size for Beginner level is ten (10).

Maximum class size for Primary and Junior level, where the majority of the class age is seven (7) and over, shall be twelve (12).

Intermediate and Senior level, where the majority of the class age is twelve (12) and over, is up to the discretion of the teacher, with the executive's approval to a maximum of fifteen (15) students.

Teachers will be notified of any special need's circumstances, where assistance may be required.

CLASS PLACEMENT

All decisions as far as class placement and movement of students (at any time), are at the discretion of the teacher. The teacher must explain the reason for class placement decision and be confident with their explanation.

COSTUMES

It is the expectation for all GBSD teachers:

1. That all costume design and planning forms are turned into the costume head by November 1. At this time this final information will be shared with the executive. This is to ensure that the following criteria are followed:

1. Costing for costumes is being followed.
2. That recycling from current stock has been considered.
3. To keep all costumes within general acceptability for all dancers.

All forms can be requested by contacting our Costume Coordinator

MUSIC

It is the expectation of GBSD that all music used in any GBSD activities/classes will not include the promotion of:

- Swearing
- Drug Use
- Violence or any other anti-social behaviour.

If these criteria are not met the teacher/volunteer will be asked to change, modify or clean up the song by executive. Until the above criteria are met, the song will not be played or used.

Note: Teachers are asked to provide to the current executive their songs being used for recital by the Nov. Executive meeting. This coincides with costume concepts.

DANCEWEAR / HAIR

Teachers must enforce the school's expectations with students and parents. If a teacher has an issue with a student, they are to follow this procedure:

1. Send a note home
2. Teacher is to send a note home as well as connect with the parent
3. President is to send a letter and contact the parent

COMPETITIVE PROGRAM

1. Dancers must be enrolled in Grey Bruce School of Dance Recreational class(es), Dancers must be enrolled in a recreational class of their choosing. Mandatory open technique class is to be taken. Jr and Sr Acro students must take an Acro technique class. Mini crew must take an Acro recreational class.

2. A Parent/Dancer commitment contract will be signed after class offers have been accepted.

3. Competitive Registration Fees include costume, class instruction, competition fees. Other costs, that are the responsibility of the member/family, could include, but are not limited to, competitive jacket, make-up, hotel costs, etc.

4. A \$300 deposit is required before the deadline and the balance is due once routines are established. The Competitive DEADLINE will be August 30th prior to the new season starting

5. The Competitive Team will meet once in August (date to be determined) and once in September (usually one evening the week before the season begins)

6. Routines will be the final decision of the choreographer/teacher

7. There is an expectation of mandatory attendance to all classes, choreography dates, and competitions; if one class is missed a verbal warning is given, if two classes are missed a letter is sent home and a meeting will be requested to take place between the teacher, parent, an executive member, and dancer. At this time a discussion regarding how attendance can be met. The dancer will be placed on probation, with the hope that attendance will improve. If the dancer misses a third class said dancer will be dismissed from the competitive program with no refund given.

8. There are two mandatory Choreography weekends (schedule to be determined)

PROFESSIONAL DEVELOPMENT (Teachers)

Professional Development is very important to GBSD and our teachers. It benefits the teacher as well as all dancers that teacher instructs. This would be offered providing funds are available to a maximum of \$150. Requests for funds need to be submitted to executive for approval before the class/event is attended and will be reimbursed after the class/event has been attended. It is understood that in-service may be asked of a teacher who has received funds through GBSD for professional development.

TEACHER CONTRACTS

Contracts are to be negotiated by June 1st, including an escape clause, indicating the contract is viable only if the registration revenue is adequate.

FESTIVAL

The Grey Bruce School of Dance will pay for class registration into Walkerton Rotary Festival, if GBSD and the teacher decide to send classes.

RECITAL / ATTENDANCE

Young dancers are required to attend all rehearsals/run through but need stay only as long as their number is being practiced. Finales are optional for the younger dancers. Students may be withdrawn from performing at recital at the teacher's discretion if they miss more than four classes, more than three consecutive classes or if the student is disruptive and un-cooperative in class.

PHOTOGRAPHY AND TECHNOLOGY

GBSD wants to make everyone aware that the use of cameras at any GBSD activity should be for the purpose of taking photos of your own child(ren) and with approval from other student's parents, of their class. No photos, video or other multi-media are to be taken without permission of those in the photo. The use of cell phones is permitted only before and after classes and only for the purpose of telephoning. Cell phones are to be used outside of the studio and are to be turned off during classes to minimize disruption.

GBSD may take pictures at additional GBSD events (ex: Walkerton Rotary Music Festival, Community Events) for promotional purposes.

Disciplinary action will be taken against the individual found to have taken photos at any GBSD activity or facility and /or posted the pictures without the written consent of those in the photo. It is against the law to post pictures of anyone without written consent or their parent's consent for those under the age of 18. This includes written publications and the Internet.

COMMUNICATION

When a parent has a concern or suggestion, it is expected that the concerns/suggestions will be first taken to the individual with whom the parent has the concerns/questions with. However please wait 24 hrs. Then...

STEP 1: Speak to the teacher/executive member... (issue resolved). (the teacher or parent should ensure there is an executive member present during the conversation) (If the issue is not resolved, proceed to STEP 2)

STEP2: Speak to the GBSD President. If you have not yet spoke to the teacher/executive then the president will ask you to do so first if this has already been done and more conversation is needed.

THE ROLE OF THE PRESIDENT is to, involve the teacher/executive in any further discussions with the parent(s). The president may request, at any time in the process, that concerns be put in writing. The president may involve, at any time in the process, others who may be helpful in resolving the concern (the executive).

For all other GBSD related concerns/suggestions that do not involve taking the matter up first with a teacher/executive, the communication should be directed to the president

The effective use of these communication guidelines by all concerned will result in the fair and quick resolution of concerns.

BEHAVIOURAL ISSUES

Refer to the GBSD Disciplinary Action Guidelines. (Attached)
Refer to the GBSD Children Protection Policy (see document)

EXECUTIVE

The executive discount will not be carried forward except in extenuating circumstance and then will be put to a vote by the executive members.

Executive bonus will not be given retroactively. Executive bonus will be given only when funds permit and voted on by the executive

Only immediate family members of dependents to use discount; it cannot be transferred to another person.

In order to qualify for the executive bonus, executive members must attend the percentage of meetings as described in the Executive Conduct. The executive bonus will be One (1) free class, after completing one year on the executive committee. Where two or more members of an immediate family hold executive positions, jointly the family qualifies for one (1) executive bonus and one (1) vote at Annual General Meeting and one (1) vote per position held at regular executive meetings. *When a person volunteers to fulfill a role on the executive, the above policy will be made clear to them.*

If a meeting is missed, the executive member must send the information to another executive member, as well as follow up after the meeting by checking their folder or email for minutes to the meeting and/or speak(ing) to the president. Anyone not meeting the requirement for executive bonus

will be contacted individually and privately before registration dates and any concerns will be addressed at the executive portion of the Annual Meeting.

An executive member must be an executive member for two full dance seasons before taking on the role of President/Treasurer/Vice and must be a member of the executive during the preceding year of becoming President/Treasurer/Vice.(unless extenuating circumstances occur and the position requires filling)

All executive positions must be voted upon by members of the Grey Bruce School of Dance, with one vote per family at the GBSD Annual General Meeting.

VOLUNTEER HOURS

Non-executive members taking on coordinating roles will do so as their volunteer commitment. If a student completes volunteer hours, they will be applied toward the parent's volunteer hours. The forty (40) hours of community service required for high school programs may not contribute to volunteer hours required by families.

Adult dancers will be required to do recital volunteering if the dance class they attend participates in recital.

RENTALS

All renters will be required to sign a rental agreement, pay a rental fee, and give a damage deposit. Facility Rental agreement (see document) Costume Rental agreement (see document)

TEACHER'S AWARD

To be determined by the teachers as to what this looks like. To be presented and financed solely by the teachers.

Grey Bruce School of Dance

Disciplinary Action Guidelines

These guidelines are in place to deal with incidents involving Grey Bruce School of Dance students, parents/guardians, teachers and executive members that include acts of physical aggression, verbal name calling or insulting, property damage, vandalism, and/or disrespectful behaviour towards a teacher or fellow student(s) or other person(s) involved in the Grey Bruce School of Dance.

Course of Action:

- Written warning detailing the unacceptable behaviour as deemed by the Grey Bruce School of Dance executive members and reparation determined.

- If the student, parent/guardian, teacher, executive member is reprimanded a second time, for unacceptable behaviour, whether a repeated offence or a new incident, said person will be expelled from all GBSD functions (dance class, picture day, executive position...) for the rest of the dance season with no refund of registration fees or executive bonus.

- If any incident includes the involvement of law enforcement officers, said person may be expelled immediately from all dance classes. Should said person be expelled for law involvement reasons then future registration at the Grey Bruce School of Dance will be refused.

Dear _____

This letter is to inform you that you or your child has displayed unacceptable behaviour on

_____.

The incident involved:

The guidelines for disciplinary action for the Grey Bruce School of Dance are as follows:

- First Offence, Written warning and reparation determined by the GBSD executive board.
- Second offence, whether a repeated offence or a new incident, expulsion from all GBSD functions for the rest of the dance season with no refund of registration fees.
- If any incident includes the involvement of law enforcement officers, said person will be expelled immediately from all dance classes and will be refused registration at the Grey Bruce School of Dance in the future.

It has been determined that reparation for the unacceptable behaviour will be:

The Grey Bruce School of Dance requires the above directions for reparation be completed by _____ in order to allow that further dance classes be attended.

Sincerely,

Executive Members of

The Grey Bruce School of Dance

GBSD

Child Protection Policy

Executive Statement

Protecting children from abuse is a responsibility of all those who come into contact with them. We at GBSD are committed to practice which protects children from harm. Information contained in this document will help to create an understanding and direction for staff, volunteers, parents/guardians and children involved in Dance with GBSD.

Signed: _____ Date: _____
President

The Grey Bruce School of Dance (GBSD) believes that:

The welfare of children is paramount.

All children, whatever their age, culture, disability, gender, language, racial origin, religious beliefs and/or sexual identity have the right to be protected from abuse.

All suspicions and allegations of abuse will be taken seriously and responded to swiftly and appropriately.

All staff (paid/volunteer) working with the GBSD have a responsibility to report concerns to the appropriate officer.

Policy Statement

The GBSD is committed to ensuring that the safety, welfare and well-being of children are maintained at all times during their participation in activities run by the GBSD. GBSD aims to promote a safe environment for all children and to assist all staff, volunteers, executive and parents/guardians to recognize child abuse and neglect and follow the appropriate notification procedures when reporting alleged abuse.

A child is defined as under 18 according to The Children Act 1989.

Promoting good practice

The GBSD will encourage the following:

Always working in an open environment where possible (e.g. avoid private or unobserved situations).
Treating all young people equally, and with respect and dignity.

Always putting the welfare of the young person first.

Making dance fun, enjoyable and promoting fair play.

Keeping up to date with technical skills, qualifications and insurance in dance.

Involve parents/guardians wherever possible.

Rational

Through the development of this policy GBSD objectives are to:

Adopt child protection guidelines through a code of conduct for all staff (paid or unpaid).

Provide information to assist staff and volunteers in recognizing and responding to all forms of child abuse.

Provide direction to all staff, volunteers, executive and parents/guardians their legal responsibilities under child protection legislation.

Follow procedures for recruitment and selection of staff and volunteers.

Policy Aims

The aim of the GBSD is to promote good practice:

Providing children and young people with appropriate safety and protection whilst in the care of the GBSD.

Allow all staff/volunteers to make informed and confident responses to specific child protection issues.

Scope of Policy

The Child Protection Policy of GBSD are applicable to all executive, staff, volunteers and parents/guardians (paid, voluntary, permanent or casual) of GBSD.

Implementation of Legislation

In order to implement the child protection policy of GBSD will undertake to:

Implement strategies and procedures that focus on the best interests of children and meet the requirements of child protection legislation.

Promote a safe and supportive environment for all children and young people participating in activities with the GBSD.

Increase awareness and emphasis of the importance of child protection issues in a dance environment to all those involved with the activities of the GBSD. This includes executive, staff, volunteers, parents and their children.

Ensure that all staff/volunteers/executive/parents/guardians are aware of their responsibilities arising.

Expectations

GBSD expects that all executives, staff, volunteers and parents/guardians whether paid or unpaid who participate in any dance event/class under the banner of this organization will commit to the above.

Suspected Abuse

Any suspicion that a child has been abused by staff/volunteer/parent should be reported to the President/Vice President of the GBSD who will support the reporter in taking such steps as considered necessary to ensure the safety of the child in question and any other child who may be at risk.

Responding to Suspicions or Allegations

It is not the responsibility of anyone working in the GBSD (paid/volunteer) to take responsibility or to **decide** whether or not child abuse has taken place. However, there is a **responsibility to act** on any concerns through contact with the appropriate authorities.

The GBSD will assure all staff/volunteers that it will fully support and protect anyone, who in good faith reports his or her concern regarding the safety of a child.

When there is a complaint against a member of staff/volunteer/parent there may be three types of investigation:

A criminal investigation

A child protection investigation

A disciplinary or misconduct investigation

During the investigation process the person whom has had a complaint placed against them will be removed from their position within GBSD for the duration of the investigation.

The results of the police and child protection investigation may well influence the disciplinary investigation, but not necessarily.

Policy Review

GBSD Child Protection and Intervention Policy and Guidelines will be reviewed and updated in line with any legislative changes that have significant impact on the manner in which child protection and intervention issues are to be dealt with.

Signed: _____ Date: _____
President

Approved May 2012



224-7th Avenue Unit #3
Hanover, Ontario N4N 2H1

Studio Rental Agreement

Grey Bruce School of Dance and _____

Print name of individual responsible

agree to the following rental arrangements. **The Grey Bruce School of Dance** Studio 1 or 2 (circle one) will be rented from _____ to _____ at the rate of \$20/hour or \$120/day (circle one).

Time

for the following date(s): _____.

Total Hours = _____ x \$120 = \$ _____
Total # of Days Cost per Day

Total Owed = _____ x \$20 = \$ _____
Total Hours Cost Per Hour

OTHER SPECIAL AGREEMENTS:

Please note these additional conditions to your rental contract:

CANCELLATION:

~In the event that the renter cancels his/her rental time for a specific date, **The Grey Bruce School of Dance** needs to be notified no later than 7 days before the scheduled rental. If less time is given, **The Grey Bruce School of Dance** will refund rental amount paid minus 25% of the booking fees.

PAYMENTS:

~Payments shall be made to our registrar **two weeks** prior to the event.

~A **re-fundable damage deposit of \$100.00** is required (with rental payment). Once inspection of the premises or section that was used is completed, this will be returned

~If your rental payment is more than two weeks past due (according to your agreement), **The Grey Bruce School of Dance will charge a \$25.00 late fee.**

OTHER:

~A group waiver or proof of personal insurance must also be signed/shown before the renter uses the Studio.

~**The Grey Bruce School of Dance** reserves the right to cancel this rental agreement at any time.

GBSD Signature Date Renter Signature Date

Print Name Address Phone Number

Costume Rental Agreement

Name of Organization: _____

Name of Contact: _____

Address of Contact: _____

Phone Number: _____

Date Costume(s) needed: _____

Date Costume(s) picked up: _____

Condition of Costume(s) when picked up: Excellent ___ Fair ___

If Fair what were the issues when picked up:

Signature of executive member: _____

Signature of Renter: _____

List and Description rented Costume(s) below:

1. _____
2. _____
3. _____
4. _____
5. _____
6. _____
7. _____
8. _____
9. _____
10. _____

Date Costume(s) returned: _____

Condition of Costume(s) when returned: Excellent ___ Fair ___

If Fair what were the issues when returned:

Signature of Executive member: _____

Signature of Renter: _____

Deposit required: \$250.00 Cash ___ Cheque ___ Receipt issued _____

Date Deposit received: _____

Date Deposit returned: _____

Signature of Executive member of returned deposit: _____

Signature of person who deposit was returned to: _____

Terms of Rental Agreement

I agree to return all items in their original state by the date specified. Any replacements or repairs necessary shall be the responsibility of the renter and their organization. The costs of such repairs shall be deducted from the deposit if they are not done prior to the costumes being returned.

No repairs or replacements of any costume(s) shall be done without the notification or consent of Grey Bruce School of Dance. With this exception Unless it is an emergency wardrobe issue with the costume(s). In this case Grey Bruce School of Dance shall be notified of this as soon as possible regarding what was done and the cause of the issue.

No alterations will be allowed to any costume that is the Property of Grey Bruce School of Dance.

Any damage or loss of any costume(s) that are the property of Grey Bruce School of Dance, the renter and their organization shall be responsible for the replacement cost of that costume(s).

Signature of executive member: _____

Signature of renter: _____