



# ADF DANCE ACADEMY

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## DANCE KIT POLICY

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PRINCIPLE

## Our Approach

At ADF Dance Academy, dance kit is not simply about presentation and safe participation, it is also about helping students feel part of their class and the wider Academy. We believe consistent kit helps encourage teamwork, belonging and a sense of unity throughout Academy life.

We recognise the importance of maintaining clear expectations across all Academy activity and aim to maintain an organised and professional environment where students can enjoy dancing together whilst feeling valued and proud to represent their class and ADF Dance Academy.

## Purpose

Clear and consistent expectations help classes, events, performances and other Academy activities operate safely and effectively for everyone involved whilst also supporting preparation and participation throughout ADF Dance Academy.

This policy outlines:

- Dance kit and footwear expectations
- Guidance on presentation and participation
- Responsibilities relating to preparation and communication
- Expectations for classes, rehearsals, performances, competitions and events
- Measures used to help support consistency, organisation and safe participation throughout the Academy

## Scope

This policy applies to all students, parents/carers and individuals connected to ADF Dance Academy in relation to dance kit, footwear and presentation expectations throughout Academy-related activity, including:

- Classes
- Rehearsals
- Performances
- Competitions
- Workshops
- Trips
- Events
- Selected team, squad, troupe and Academy opportunities

## ADF Dance Academy Kit

ADF Dance Academy kit consists of:

- ADF Dance Academy top and hoodie
- Plain full-length black leggings
- The correct footwear for the dance styles within the Academy

Students part of Cheerleading classes are also required to have Academy pom-poms for use during sessions and home practice.

New students may attend their first three classes without an ADF Dance Academy top and hoodie before purchasing these Academy items. However, plain full-length black leggings and correct footwear are required from the first session to support safe participation. If not already owning leggings, these are not an item purchased through the Academy and may be bought from any suitable retailer, provided they are plain black, full length and an appropriate fit for dance activity.

From the fourth session onwards, students are expected to attend wearing the full required Academy kit outlined in this policy. Once purchased, the same kit is worn across classes, rehearsals, performances, trips and events to help keep expectations practical and consistent for families whilst also maintaining a consistent and recognisable Academy image.

Any future changes to kit requirements will be communicated to parents/carers with as much notice as reasonably possible. This will usually be at least one month in advance.

## Class-Specific Tops

Class-specific tops are an important part of the Academy identity and help distinguish between different dance styles and levels, particularly for students attending multiple classes. Moving into a new class level, selected group, team, squad or troupe can be an exciting milestone. Wearing the correct top helps encourage pride, belonging and connection within a group whilst also recognising progression, commitment and achievement throughout a student's dance journey.

## Footwear Requirements

Correct footwear is an important part of safe, comfortable and consistent participation throughout Academy activity. The Academy approved trainer style is selected to provide appropriate structure, cushioning and support and is worn for all classes, rehearsals, performances, trips and events to maintain consistency, presentation and suitability across the range of dance styles taught. Full information regarding footwear will be provided to parents/carers upon enrolment to ensure the correct trainers are purchased from the beginning.

## Indoor Footwear Expectations

Trainers worn at ADF Dance Academy must be kept for indoor use only to maintain cleanliness, suitability for dance activity and compliance with venue requirements. Students should arrive wearing alternative outdoor footwear and change into the trainers worn for Academy activity once inside the venue or studio space.

If trainers have been worn outside, soles must be cleaned before participating when attending venues where indoor-only footwear rules apply. Where trainers cannot be cleaned appropriately, physical participation will not be possible on that occasion and students can instead remain involved through observation while supervised. For safety reasons, participating barefoot, in socks or alternative footwear that does not meet requirements cannot be permitted.

## Forgotten Items and Incorrect Kit

Students are expected to arrive prepared with all required kit items for their class, rehearsal, event, performance or other Academy activity. Where essential participation items, including correct footwear or suitable leggings, have not been brought, physical participation will not be possible on that occasion. In such cases, students will instead be encouraged to remain involved through observation to help continue following choreography, routines, teaching content and class progression. Class fees remain non-refundable in these circumstances.

## Responsibility and Communication

To help students arrive prepared and participate comfortably, kit expectations, order information and participation requirements are communicated clearly and it is the responsibility of parents/carers and students to ensure kit and footwear are brought and worn to Academy activities.

Where essential kit requirements have not been followed, participation decisions may be necessary to support safety, presentation, venue requirements and the smooth running of classes, rehearsals, performances and events. These decisions should not be viewed as punishment or penalty, but as part of maintaining safe participation, consistency and discipline throughout the Academy.

ADF Dance Academy cannot accept responsibility where participation or involvement is affected due to kit requirements not being followed. Communication regarding kit should remain respectful and considerate towards Academy staff.

## Kit Cost and Purchasing

We aim to keep requirements practical and appropriate. Parents/carers are encouraged to ensure they fully understand kit expectations and associated costs before joining ADF Dance Academy. Until the Academy website shop is live, parents/carers are welcome to contact directly for kit information, pricing and purchasing guidance prior to enrolment.

All Academy kit purchases are non-refundable. Personalised items cannot be exchanged. Non-personalised items may only be exchanged if unworn and in their original condition. Once items have been worn, refunds or exchanges will not be possible.

## Second-Hand Footwear System

As trainers for Academy activity are intended for indoor use only, they are often kept in good condition. To help support families and encourage sustainability, the Academy offer an informal second-hand trainer system. Parents/carers wishing to sell trainers may inform ADF Dance Academy of the size and asking price, whilst families interested in purchasing second-hand footwear are welcome to enquire about available sizes.

Where a suitable match is identified, we can help connect families, with payments either arranged directly between parents/carers or through the Academy, if preferred. This system is entirely optional and is simply set up as a supportive way to help recycle good-quality footwear across the Academy.

## Competition Kit and Presentation

Competition kit and presentation requirements are separate from standard Academy kit expectations. Students will arrive at competitions wearing their ADF Dance Academy kit, with the same trainers continuing to be worn for performances. In addition, students will also have a separate performance outfit specific to their group, routine or category.

Information regarding outfits, hairstyles, make-up and any additional presentation requirements will be communicated to parents/carers in advance of registration. As an Academy, we will always aim to provide appropriate notice to help students and families feel prepared and organised ahead of performance and event experiences.

## Understanding and Following This Policy

By enrolling with ADF Dance Academy, students and parents/carers acknowledge and accept the expectations outlined within this Dance Kit Policy. This policy works alongside the Academy's Terms and Conditions, Attendance and Commitment Policy, Code of Conduct, Health and Safety Policy, Safeguarding and Child Protection Policy and any performance, competition or event guidance issued by ADF Dance Academy.

## Monitoring and Review

This policy will be reviewed annually or sooner where necessary to reflect changes in Academy practice, health and safety requirements or operational arrangements. Overall responsibility for monitoring and review rests with the Principal and Responsible Person.

## Final Statement

At ADF Dance Academy, dance kit plays an important role in helping students feel comfortable, prepared and able to fully participate. We want all individuals to enjoy dancing safely together whilst feeling proud to represent their class and the Academy. We greatly appreciate the continued support in helping maintain presentation, professionalism, consistency and a sense of unity throughout ADF Dance Academy.