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DanSci Dance Teaching Assistant Program



DanSci Dance Teaching Assistant Program

Dancers who are currently enrolled in dance programs at DanSci Dance Studio and are age 13 or above can apply for the Dance Teaching Assistant Program. This program is designed to give current students hands-on experience towards becoming trained dance instructors and mature leaders. Assistant approval is determined by the director and staff.

The opportunity to serve as a Dance Teaching Assistant is not only a great honour and responsibility, but also an invaluable learning experience that may result in future work references and teaching opportunities.

Dance Teaching Assistants represent DanSci Dance Studio & Company and must be exemplary students and volunteers. Any misconduct, poor behaviour, poor sportsmanship, disrespect of fellow dancers/instructors in classroom or at performance/events will result in an immediate termination of position.

All Teaching Assistants must begin the program as a volunteer. There are no guarantees for a paid position as a teacher and will be first-come-first-served based on experience and need. All assistants will be evaluated and assessed by the director and instructor periodically. Assistant Teaching Certification typically takes 3 years with a further year to complete your Developing Teacher Certification.

Schedules are subject to change throughout the year based on class enrolment

Dance Teaching Assistant Requirements

	Assistant Teacher	Developing Teacher
Age Range	13-20 years	16-20 years
Skill Requirements	Proficient in skills taught at level assisting	Proficient in skills taught at level assisting
DanSci Dance Studio Requirements	No experience assisting necessary; must be training in the discipline assisting in.	3 years minimum experience as an Assistant Teacher; completion of IDTS Assistant teacher course. Must be training in the discipline assisting in.
Absence Policy	3 Absences per term (Spring, Summer, Autumn)	2 Absences per term (Spring, Summer, Autumn)
Levels Allowed to Assist	Must have 4-year gap with enrolled dancers, or age- appropriate gap	Must have 4-year gap with enrolled dancers, or age-appropriate gap
Currently Enrolled at DanSci Dance Studio	Minimum 2 years with DanSci or Competition/Performance member	Minimum 4 years with DanSci or Competition/Performance member
# of Classes May Assist	1-3 classes (director discretion)	1-4 classes (director discretion)
Max Students enrolled in classes assisting	10/preschool, 14/regular	15/preschool, 18/regular
N/A Min Students allowed in classes assisting	4	8
Benefits Received	No cap to valid unlimited class pass (At Directors' discretion) CV-building experience; claim DanSci LTD as a reference	No cap to valid unlimited class pass (At Directors' discretion) Sub when need at: £6.15 for workers aged 18-20; £4.35 for workers aged 16-17 .CV-building experience: claim DanSci LTD as a reference
Qualification Received	IDTS Assistant Teacher certificate on successful completion of online or in person course	IDTS Developing Teacher certificate on successful completion of online or in person course Please see separate criteria.

*IDTS International Dance Teaching Standards

Opportunity to progress to IDTS Module 1 Dance Teaching Certification or I-PATH 2 year Diploma in performing arts pedagogy & principles.

Dance Teaching Assistant Expectations

- Arrive 10-15 minutes before the scheduled class time.
- Be professional and show enthusiasm without being disruptive.
- Learn dancer names and work to connect with students.
- Notify instructor and assistant director if late or absent from assigned duties. (Please note: Dance Teaching Assistants could be dismissed if the maximum absences are exceeded.)
- Demonstrate proper technique, etiquette and behaviour in the classroom, as well as the studio.
- Dress appropriately and follow dancer dress code for each class. Must be respectful, proactive and helpful in any task the instructor may ask.
- Give corrections with confidence and in a positive way.
- Follow ALL DanSci LTD Policies & Procedures.

Dance Teaching Assistant Responsibilities

Assistant Teacher Yr 1	Assistant Teacher Yr 2	Assistant Teacher Yr 3	Developing Teacher
Take Attendance			
Assist students individually while instructor teaches entire class			
Demonstrate technique			
Assist dancers with shoe changes,			
If needed bring students to/from toilets			
Assist with keeping students on task and focused			
Watch for potential safety hazards (untied shoe laces and poor spacing awareness while children are dancing)			
Assist with behaviour/classroom control	Correct behaviour and classroom misconduct		
Assist and demonstrate warmups	Occasionally lead warm-ups		
Demonstrate across-the-floor exercises	Occasionally lead across-the floor exercises		
	Give choreography corrections		
	Intro to lesson plans	Help with lesson plans/create 1 for class	Create own lesson plans
	End of year: Create small combo for classroom use (non-performance)	Create 2-3 8ct choreography for each performance piece (2 per year)	Create 20+ second choreography for each performance piece (2 per year)
		End of year: Run 1 class from beginning to finish with instructor supervision	Run several classes throughout term

Previous year responsibilities are included in the succeeding years

After year 4 (Developing Teacher status): Each assistant will be assessed on a case by case scenario in regards to teaching, co-teaching, etc

Course & examination fees

Assistant Teacher Mentorship & Certification £38/year (Maximum 3 years to complete)

Developing Teacher Mentorship & Certification £150 (Maximum 1 year to complete)

Includes examination and admin fees

Assistant Teacher further Criteria

The Developing Dance Teacher certification program is validated by the IDTS. It is a pre course to gain a full teaching certification. This course is for dancers wishing to look at starting a career in dance teaching or for furthering their leadership skills.

Your course experience has the following parts:

The majority of the training will be via in studio experience. You will be assigned a mentor who will be responsible for setting choreographic tasks, written work and supervising your final project on top of the above stipulated criteria.

Continue your dance training and studies. It is important that you set an example to other students and always conduct yourself in an exemplary fashion while representing DanSci LTD.

Complete readings/activities and educational activities in the course manual. The purpose of the course manual is for you to have a hard copy item that you can keep with you in the dance studio as a teaching reference.

Modules include:

Health & Safety

Behaviour and classroom management

Child Development

Checklists for Teaching Assistants

Introduction into Dance History

Developing and leading a warm up

Basic Anatomy

Complete practical hours As set out above (1-3 sessions/week) Run one class with supervision and satisfactory mentor report.

Complete required graduation documents

Developing Teacher Further Criteria

The Developing Dance Teacher certification program is validated by the IDTS. It is a pre course to gain a full teaching certification. This course is for dance teachers that are just starting out. The units in this course are ones that benefit new teachers. If you decide to advance through higher modules you will notice that some units are repeated at a higher level, in that case the unit will become more advanced and have a higher degree of expected understanding. Please note that Anatomy and other topics/concepts are repeated in all five levels because it requires the greatest dedication for ongoing retention.

Your course experience has the following parts:

Completion of the criteria as set by DanSci LTD above. A physical manual of written components. Choreographic projects. Online exams and practical hours. Tutor time with IDTS and your DanSci mentor.

1- Complete readings/activities and educational activities in the course manual. The purpose of the course manual is for you to have a hard copy item that you can keep with you in the dance studio as a teaching reference. There is lots of useful information inside as well as a variety of teaching templates and worksheets.

2- Complete the online component quizzes for each unit. Remember to record which units you have completed! You will not hear back regarding the results of a quiz UNLESS there is an issue and in such case the course tutor who is marking it will assign you additional learning before awarding credit for that quiz.

3- Complete practical hours. Twenty five hours of instruction are required. These hours must be accumulated AFTER you have finished the course material so that you can apply the learnt theory into your teaching and are on top of the hours required by DanSci LTD as stipulated above.

4- Complete your choreography projects. This includes one solo, one duo/trio and one group.

5- Complete required graduation documents: Practical Hours, 3 Lesson Plans, 3 Supervisor Reviews, 3 Teaching Self Reflection, Choreography Projects

How to Apply

- Complete the application and availability/commitment form.
- Qualified candidates are interviewed in advance
- Return all application materials and questions to: Artistic Director Ava Barron Thomas DanSci Dance Studio: Assistant Application
- Provide course fee

Application form Ass Teach 2020/25

Please circle one: Assistant Teacher Developing Teacher

Last Name		First Name		DOB:	
Email Address			Parent Name:		
Parent Phone #			Parent email		
School/college Attending			School/college Year At course start date		
Classes currently enrolled in at DanSci Dance Studio			Preferred Instructors (placement not guaranteed):		
AVAILABILITY Please circle	Monday Tuesday Wednesday Thursday Friday Saturday				
Conflict dates:					
List a few reasons why you feel you would make a great Teaching assistant/ Teacher					
COMMITMENT AND SIGNATURE	<p>I agree to participate in the Dance Teacher Assistant Program for an entire program. I understand that if I am unable to continue my commitment, I will notify the instructor and assistant director two weeks in advance with a written explanation. I understand that if I do not complete the year or meet all the requirements that I will not be eligible for class pass benefits and may not have completed enough criteria to reach certification. I agree to attend the classes I am committed to. I agree to arrive at least 10 minutes before class and not leave until the class is complete. I agree not to be absent for more than 2/3 absences a session. I agree to abide by all the rules & studio policies set forth by the instructor and assistant director.</p>				
<p>Finally, as a co-teacher/teacher of DanSci Dance Studio & Company, you are committing to DanSci LTD exclusively with the exception of master or drop-in classes, i.e., no teaching/assisting or enrolment elsewhere for up to 2 years or until deemed ready for an independent contractor position</p>					
Applicant Signature:					Date:
Parent Signature (Under 18s)					Date: