

5 Things Every Parent Should Know When Choosing a Dance Studio

1. What type of dance floor is used?

Dance is a very physical activity that requires a great deal of jumping, which can put stress on bones and joints. Most dance footwear does not provide any cushioning, so the impact of dance movement can place a lot of pressure on the knees and back. The best way to assure a safe dance environment for your child is to choose a school that has a professional “floating floor”. A floating floor is a dance floor that rests on a base of foam, to absorb the shock of jumping. Our studio is equipped with professional floating floors. Our state of the art floors help reduce the risk of injuries, and allow our students to dance longer without getting fatigued.

2. What is the size of the class and can I view my child’s class?

If a dance class has fewer students in it, each child will receive more personalized attention, learn more, and have more fun. In a small class of younger students it is easier for a teacher to maintain control over the class and make sure each student understands the concepts and instructions. A smaller class size also allows teachers to ensure that students are developing proper technique. Our smaller class sizes make sure that no fundamental concepts are missed and no dancer feels left out. Live video feed from our classrooms allows parents to observe from our waiting room. Through out the year parents are welcome into the classroom during our “watch weeks” to observe.

3. What are the qualifications of the teachers?

Our studio employs instructors who are professionally qualified in the area of dance they will be teaching. However, many studios hire inexperienced teachers who “learn as they go” while teaching your children. We feel it is extremely important that our teachers are not only trained in dance, but continue to attend annual dance conventions and workshops throughout the country to stay current with dance trends. Our teachers go through a comprehensive interview process and are also trained by the Studio Director to ensure they are teaching their classes according to the ideals and beliefs that the studio is built upon. All of our teachers have been dancing their entire lives in a professional studio environment. Many have danced at a collegiate level and have returned to our studio to pass their talents onto your children. We teach correct terminology, respect and discipline and proper technical training is at the core of our philosophy. Our teachers make dance class engaging, upbeat and fun, all while giving your children the best, most complete dance education!

4. What are the “extras” required for the year end recital?

Most studios put on a year-end show. Students that perform in the show must have a costume for each of their dance numbers. Some studios may require parents to sew their child’s costumes, or pay extra and the parents must find their own seamstress to do the sewing. This can be inconvenient and frustrating for parents who are busy or can’t sew. Our studio uses our own seamstress to sew and alter the costumes, after they are ordered, so parents do not have to worry about any costume hassles. Our studio also provides dancers with all of their props, costume accessories, recital tights, finale t-shirt and a DVD of the performance at no extra cost!

5. Can I get immediate assistance if I have a question?

In many studios the teacher or studio owner conducts classes and handles the administration tasks. By trying to do two jobs at once, the class may suffer as the teacher has to use class time for customer service issues, or the studio may have no administrator if the teacher is in a class. To have a good experience, it is important to choose a school that can assist you with questions, even if the teacher is occupied in a class. At our studio, we have a family-friendly lobby area, with an organized office manager on staff who is well-trained and knowledgeable in our services available during regular class hours to answer questions and handle administrative tasks.