



*Pymble Ladies' College*

**Royal Academy of Dance Ballet  
Grades  
Information  
2020**



## Royal Academy of Dance (RAD)

This Information booklet will provide you with all the necessary information about what we offer in our Ballet stream at the College. Our RAD Ballet grades are a part of our Dance Program and come under the Ballet Stream category. In 2020, we will again be offering the RAD Syllabus from 'Pre-Primary in Dance' to 'Grade 5' and the Vocational Grade 'Intermediate Foundation'.

### What is the Royal Academy of Dance (RAD)?

With over 13,000 members' spread across 83 countries, the RAD is one of the largest and most influential dance education and training organisations in the world. The RAD offers an internationally recognised portfolio of examinations and assessments designed to encourage, motivate and reward students of all ages and abilities, outlining a progressive structure for learning and achievement.

The graded syllabi provides a broad practical dance education developing the technical, musical and performance skills of the student. All classes will incorporate Classical Ballet with the addition of Character Dance for Grades 1 to 5 and pointe work for Intermediate Foundation.

The *Graded Examination in Dance* syllabus:

- Focuses on Classical Ballet and Character Dance.
- Is appropriate for candidates from the age of five years.

Included in this document is a table of the 2020 structure of Ballet at *Pymble*. Each year we review the program and make any necessary changes to cater for our current students and RAD requirements. Please use all information in this booklet to assist with planning where your daughter is in her Ballet grades.



## Royal Academy of Dance Grades offered at Pymble Ladies' College 2020

Preparatory School Ballet			
Royal Academy of Dance Grades	Year at School	Mode of Examination Available	Number of Classes Required a Week
Pre-Primary in Dance	Kindergarten	Class Award	1
Primary in Dance	Year 1	Class Award	1
Grade 1	Year 2	Class Award	2

Junior School Ballet			
Royal Academy of Dance Grades	Year at School	Mode of Examination Available	Number of Classes Required a Week
Grade 2	Year 3	Examination	2
Grade 3	Year 4	Examination	2
Grade 4	Year 5	Examination	2
Grade 5	Year 6	Examination	2

Secondary School Ballet			
Royal Academy of Dance Vocational Grade	Year at School	Mode of Examination Available	Number of Classes Required a Week
Intermediate Foundation	Year 7 to 12	Examination	3

## Ballet in the Preparatory School



All our Preparatory Ballet Grades have the opportunity to complete the Class Award for a participation certificate. This fosters the girls' confidence and celebrates their achievements, rather than the formal examination modes which create unnecessary pressure for this age group.

All Preparatory Ballet students are required to participate in the annual Dance Showcase. We value both the learning and assessment of the RAD syllabi and the preparation and performance of the Dance Showcase routine equally. Students in Pre-Primary in Dance and Primary in Dance attend 1 Ballet Class a week. Students in Grade 1 Ballet attend two classes per week.

### Preparatory School Ballet

Royal Academy of Dance Grades	Year at School	Mode of Examination Available	Number of Classes Required a Week	Class Day and Time
Pre-Primary in Dance	Kindergarten	Class Award	1	Monday or Thursday 3.00pm to 3.45pm
Primary in Dance	Year 1	Class Award	1	Monday or Tuesday 3.00pm to 4.00pm
Grade 1	Year 2	Class Award	2	Wednesday <b>and</b> Thursday 3.00pm to 3.45pm



## Ballet in the Junior School

In the Junior School, all students attend **two** Ballet classes a week. Please note that we will not be offering the one a week option for Showcase only in 2020 and all RAD Ballet students must attend the two lessons a week.

All Ballet students are required to participate in the annual Dance Showcase. We value both the learning and assessment of the RAD syllabi and the preparation and performance of the Dance Showcase routine equally.



There are certain College and RAD requirements for specific grades. Please see below:

Grades 2, 3, 4 and 5 - Examination Requirements:

- Any student wishing to be considered for the examination at the end of the year **must register for, and consistently attend, the two classes a week.**

Royal Academy of Dance Grades	Year at School	Number of Classes Required a Week	Day and Time
Grade 2	Year 3	2	Monday 4.00pm to 5.00pm Thursday 4.15pm to 5.15pm
Grade 3	Year 4	2	Monday 5.00pm to 6.00pm Wednesday 3.45pm to 4.45pm
Grade 4	Year 5	2	Wednesday 4.45pm to 5.45pm Friday 7.00am to 8.00am
Grade 5	Year 6	2	Tuesday 7.00am to 8.00am Friday 3.15pm to 4.15pm

## Ballet in the Secondary School

All Ballet students are required to participate in the annual Dance Showcase. We value both the learning and assessment of the RAD syllabi and the preparation and performance of the Dance Showcase routine equally.

### **The Vocational Graded Pathway – Intermediate Foundation \* by invitation only**

The College is offering the Vocational Grade – Intermediate Foundation in 2020. This Grade is for dedicated, skilled and passionate ballet students. It is a beautifully crafted syllabi, incorporating pointe work and challenging exercises to further develop the dancer's classical technique. Students are invited to register in this class from a selection class in 2019. If your daughter did not attend the selection class and you would like her to be considered please email [dance@pymblelc.nsw.edu.au](mailto:dance@pymblelc.nsw.edu.au)

Students will only complete their examination if they have met all the requirements below and have accomplished the syllabus work. The College will determine each student's entry for examination on an individual basis and will advise parents accordingly. Students are not guaranteed to complete their examination in the year they commence the grade. In some cases, it may take two years for a student to accomplish all vocational work. The RAD Examinations for Vocational Grades are exceptionally difficult. Students are examined under the expectation of their future as a professional dancer.



All students wishing to be considered for the RAD Vocational Examinations must:

1. Commit to attending the three scheduled weekly classes all year.
2. Have passed the Pre-Pointe Assessment with our Dance Physiotherapist.
3. Commit to four private lessons a year.
4. Register and agree to all Sport and Activities requirements online, including the registration and examination fees.
5. Commit to attending a Mock Examination.
6. Uphold the College values while participating in the Examinations.
7. Communicate with the Dance Co-ordinator about any issues that may arise during the year.
8. To ensure safe dance practice, candidates must have reached the minimum age of 11 by September 1 (for exam sessions taking place between September and December).

Secondary School Ballet			
Royal Academy of Dance Grades	Year at School	Number of Classes Required a Week	Days and Times
Intermediate Foundation	Secondary School	3	Thursday 5.15pm to 6.30pm (Syllabus) Friday 4.15pm to 4.45pm (Strength and Stretch) Friday 4.45pm to 6.00pm (Syllabus)

### **Pre-Pointe Assessments**

All new students enrolled in Intermediate Foundation or above will have an individual Pre-Pointe Assessment with our Dance Physiotherapist. This Pre-Pointe screening is essential to ensure the student is ready to progress to pointe work.

The assessment covers areas such as ankle strength, turnout range and hip mobility as well as core control and body alignment. Following the assessments each student receives a Dance Report which outlines areas to improve via specific exercises given by the Dance Physiotherapist. All students will then have a follow-up appointment to monitor student progress.



## Holiday Workshops and Mock Examinations

Dates for Holiday Workshops and Mock Examinations will be communicated during Semester 1.

The Holiday Workshops will be optional and at an additional cost. The workshops will be three days long and will be held during the September school holidays. It is highly encouraged that all students wishing to do their examination participate in these workshops.

### **Body Assessments**

Students enrolled in Ballet from Years 3 to 12 (who are not having a pre-pointe assessment) have the option of receiving a Body Assessment with the Dance Physiotherapist. Information will be sent out in 2020 to register for this assessment.

This option is also available to 2020 eisteddfod students and all reports of *Pymble* Dancers will be kept on file and provided to their dance teachers.





## Ballet Additional Costs

Description	Optional	Amount	Grades	Notes
Class Award Fee	✓	\$65.00 to \$100.00	Pre-Primary in Dance – Grade 1	
Examination Fee	✓	\$90.00 to \$200.00	Grade 2 – Intermediation Foundation	Subject to College approval
Holiday Workshops	✓	\$135.00 to \$150.00	Grade 2 – Intermediation Foundation	
Private Lessons	Compulsory for all examination students	\$45.00 per half an hour	Grade 2 – Intermediation Foundation	
Showcase Costume	Compulsory for all Ballet Students	\$80.00 to \$100.00		
Pre-Pointe Assessment	Compulsory for Vocational Grades	\$150.00 (first appointment) \$80.00 (follow-up)	Vocational Grades – <i>Examination students only (2 days a week)</i> <i>A follow-up is advised for all students following their pre-pointe assessment</i>	Please note a receipt will be provided to claim on your health fund.
Body Assessment	✓	\$150.00 (first appointment) \$80.00 (follow-up)	Vocational Grades & Eisteddfod Students	Please note if you have had a Pre-Pointe Assessment you do not need a Body Assessment.








## Ballet Program Fees




The yearly Ballet registration fees are listed on the online program information. Classes are charged yearly.

All students that do two Ballet classes a week receive 20% off the normal class prices. This is built into the cost for the classes.

Eisteddfod students may also use their 50% off Technique discount on their Ballet fees. The discount applicable is capped at \$378.50 per student per year.

## Uniform

Uniform Item	Grade Required
 <p><b>Navy Leotard LR5005G – Bloch Rad</b> Rani Girls Examination Leotard</p>	Pre-Primary Ballet (Kindergarten) Primary Ballet (Year 1) Grade 1 Ballet (Year 2) Grade 2 Ballet (Year 3) Grade 3 Ballet (Year 4) Grade 4 Ballet (Year 5) Grade 5 Ballet (Year 6)
 <p><b>Navy Crossover Z0658G – Bloch</b> Xenia Girls Cross-Over  <b>(For Winter months)</b></p>	Pre-Primary Ballet (Kindergarten) Primary Ballet (Year 1) Grade 1 Ballet (Year 2) Grade 2 Ballet (Year 3) Grade 3 Ballet (Year 4) Grade 4 Ballet (Year 5) Grade 5 Ballet (Year 6)
 <p>Bloch Clara Women's <b>Black Leotard L3454</b></p>	Vocational Students – Intermediate Foundation
<p><i>Please note that in 2020 there will be no wrap skirts worn to class. They will be worn on the Class Award and Examination day only and will be provided for Pre-Primary and Primary students.</i></p>	
 <p><b>Black Character skirt – A0404G -</b> Bloch Ribbon (pink) Character Girls Skirt</p>	Grade 1 Ballet (Year 2) Grade 2 Ballet (Year 3) Grade 3 Ballet (Year 4) Grade 4 Ballet (Year 5) Grade 5 Ballet (Year 6)
 <p>Pink <b>DANSOFT Leather Ballet Shoes</b> with Elastics attached - S0205G  (pre-sewn elastic for immediate use)</p> <p>*Intermediate Foundation will be required to purchase Prolite Satin Ballet Flat with Ribbons by Term 4 for examination.</p>	Pre-Primary Ballet (Kindergarten) Primary Ballet (Year 1) Grade 1 Ballet (Year 2) Grade 2 Ballet (Year 3) Grade 3 Ballet (Year 4) Grade 4 Ballet (Year 5) Grade 5 Ballet (Year 6) Intermediate Foundation*
 <p><b>Black Character Shoes – S0326G –</b> Bloch Accent Girls Canvas Character Shoe (Low Heel)</p>	Grade 1 Ballet (Year 2) Grade 2 Ballet (Year 3) Grade 3 Ballet (Year 4)  (Please note: Students in Grade 3 have the option of wearing the low Cuban heel or the full Cuban heel depending on the fitting)
 <p><b>Black Character Shoes – S0325G –</b> Bloch Tempo Cuban Girls Canvas Shoe</p>	Grade 4 Ballet (Year 5) Grade 5 Ballet (Year 6)

 <p><b>Satin Pointe Shoes</b> Required (Students are to be fitted accordingly at Bloch stores)</p>	<p>Vocational Students – Intermediate Foundation (students to be fitted accordingly at Bloch stores once they have passed the Pre-Pointe assessment with our Dance Physiotherapist)</p>
 <p>Bloch embrace footed girls tights flesh colour</p>	<p>All classes</p>
 <p>Bloch Ballet Socks (For <i>Pymble</i> Ballet Classes only – socks are not permitted in Class Awards or Examinations)</p>	<p>Pre-Primary Ballet (Kindergarten) Primary Ballet (Year 1) Grade 1 Ballet (Year 2) Grade 2 Ballet (Year 3) Grade 3 Ballet (Year 4) Grade 4 Ballet (Year 5) Grade 5 Ballet (Year 6)</p>
<p><i>Pymble</i> Ballet Hoodie / <i>Pymble</i> Dance Tracksuit pants Information to be sent out in 2020  *optional</p>	<p>Intermediate Foundation Only</p>



## Frequently Asked Questions:

### What is a Class Award?

A Class Award is where the students perform the Grade Syllabus to a RAD Examiner in a small group. The teacher is present and assists the students with verbal directions. Each student receives a certificate and a badge for participating. No mark is awarded.

### What is an Examination?

An Examination is where a student performs the Grade Syllabus to a RAD Examiner. The student receives a report, a certificate and an individual mark out of 100. Students may receive a Fail, Pass, Merit or Distinction.

### Does my daughter have to participate in a Class Award or an Examination?

No.

### Will my daughter progress to the next level if she does not participate in a Class Award or an Examination the year before?

This is assessed and discussed on an individual basis and is at the teacher's and Dance Co-ordinator's discretion.

### Will my daughter progress to the next level if she does not pass the Examination the year before?

This is assessed and discussed on an individual basis and is at the teacher's and Dance Co-ordinator's discretion.

### Will my daughter perform in the Dance Showcase at the end of the year?

Yes. Every student has the opportunity to perform in the annual Dance Showcase.

