

The National Ballet School

Training Excellence

Since 1939



RTO 3600 CRICOS Provider 01551E

2027 Full Time Training

N THE NATIONAL
BALLET SCHOOL

www.thenationalballetschool.vic.edu.au

"I learnt to fly at The National.

The National Ballet School taught me how to perform, how to be an artist and a dancer, how to transcend the everyday, into the mysterious world of the stage. Without it I would never have known the joys which have become my life as a professional dancer."

Amber Scott

Former Principal Artist, The Australian Ballet



The National Ballet School

One of Australia's preeminent training institutions, The National Ballet School is distinguished as a the forerunner and one of the longest running dance school in Australia. We are devoted to providing world class training, nurturing you through the next stage of your artistic development.

The School is proudly led by Artistic Director Damian Smith, an inspirational dancer with more than 25 years international experience with companies including Boston Ballet, Dutch National Ballet, Hong Kong Ballet, Hamburg Ballet, Ballet Du Nord and New York City Ballet. He joined the San Francisco Ballet in 1996, performing as Principal Dancer from 2001 until he joined The National Ballet School in 2018. Mr Smith has close connections with the professional dancers of the Australian Ballet Company and maintains close relationships with many Artistic Directors of major ballet companies around the world today.

Located in Melbourne's heritage-listed National Theatre under the same roof as the Drama School, the Ballet School enables students to train in our beautiful heritage listed building and perform in the 800-seat theatre supported by our professional production and technical teams.

Welcome



The National Ballet School is one of Australia's most influential dance training institutions. As the birthplace of dance training in this country, its alumni and faculty – such as Marilyn Jones, Amber Scott, Jarryd Madden to name a few – have extended its legacy across

this vast continent and around the world, creating new families of dance organisations and communities.

As its current Artistic Director, it's my pleasure to lead this historical dance institution into the future, acknowledge its past and inspire its present student body.

We proudly continue to produce, connect and embrace the entire performing arts family of Australia and continue to produce great results in preparing the next generation – with similar grit and determination to our Founder – for a future in the dance industry.

Damian Smith (Artistic Director)

Contact Details

RTO Manager **Shelley Wakefield**
20 Carlisle St, St Kilda 3182
enquiries@nationaltheatre.org.au

Location

The National Melbourne
Ballet School Studios
20 Carlisle St (Cnr Barkly St) St Kilda 3182

Faculty



Jane Inglis-Keen
Associate Artistic Director



Kyle Davey
Classical Ballet



Ezlimar Dortolina
Pathways Coordinator



Adrian Ricks
Contemporary Dance



Alida Segal
Character Dance



Vincent Crowley
Strength Training



Yuiko Masukawa
Classical Ballet



Jackie Ray Lythgo
Head of Musical Theatre

The National Ballet School team is devoted to delivering exceptional dance training to all ages. Please visit our website for information on our industry renowned teachers.

Schools and Course Information

Vision

Honouring our heritage, celebrating the present, inspiring the future.

Mission Statement

As one of Australia's oldest performing arts institutions, we strive to continue to produce dancers that contribute to the world of dance through passion, integrity, talent and knowledge.

Beliefs and Values

Respecting the art form, sharing dance tradition and its gifts through discipline, creativity and passion. Educating the values of commitment and focus to achieve one's personal best and keeping alive our prestigious legacy.

Philosophy

We encourage our students to take on challenges with positivity and assertiveness. To understand how they can contribute to the dance community and find their own place within it. We promote self-awareness physically, emotionally and psychologically within our students to be best prepared to face the expectations and the possible limitations of a career within the dance profession.

Equal Opportunities

Males in ballet are often underrepresented. The National Ballet School offers male dancers the opportunity to learn from a male industry expert teacher, our Artistic Director. We pride ourselves on supporting young male dancers. Specialist classes can be offered in ballet technique, male variations, repertoire, pas de deux, body conditioning and gym weight training for dancers. Productions will feature roles for all enrolled male dancers.

Photo credit: Jacinta Christos



CERTIFICATE IV IN DANCE



Photo credit: Jacinta Christos

Certificate IV in Dance

Course Code: CUA40120
CRICOS Code: 105787J

The Certificate IV in Dance at The National Ballet School is an excellent pathway for students who wish to transition into full time training. This course enables aspiring artists to also complete their academic studies via school or other outside agencies.

Certificate IV is designed to allow each dancer to discover personal strengths, refine work habits, and develop adaptability, all while building strong technical and performance foundations. For many participants, it's a valuable step toward entering the professional world or pursuing further study.

The qualification reflects the role of individuals working in a wide variety of dance performance contexts. Students will be taught to apply solutions to a range of dance related problems and analyse and evaluate information to enhance their understanding of dance and their own practice.

Our highly skilled trainers provide excellent training in classical ballet, contemporary dance, cultural dance, pointe work, jazz dance, choreographic skills and

maintaining fitness through gym and conditioning classes.

Students on this course have the opportunity to continue their Advanced Vocational Training through the Royal Academy of Dance Examinations from Advanced Foundation through to Solo Seal.

Competition Opportunities

Selected students may also have the opportunity to compete in Australian and International Competition, such as: YAGP, AICD, The Margot Fonteyn International Ballet Competition, Kathleen Gorham Memorial Award, Ballet Teachers Workshop just to name a few.

Performance Opportunities

There are range of production opportunities per year in our very own heritage theatre and produced by our Artistic Director.

Certificate IV students will be encouraged to express and explore their own creativity in our Choreographic Workshop.

Certificate IV In Dance CUA40120

Total number of units = 13

6 core units plus

7 elective units

Core Units

CUACHR413	Develop choreography skills
CUADAN313	Develop and apply dance partnering techniques
CUADAN417	Develop expertise in dance performance techniques
CUAPRF414	Develop movement skills for performance
CUAPRF415	Rehearse for performances
CUAWHS411	Apply movement and behavioural principles to conditioning

Elective Units

CUACHR411	Create and Perform Dance Pieces
CUADAN418	Develop expertise in ballet techniques
CUADAN419	Develop expertise in contemporary dance techniques
CUAPPR414	Develop Self as Artist
CUADAN421	Develop expertise in cultural dance techniques
CUAPRF314	Develop audition techniques
CUAWHS311	Condition body for dance performance

Duration

12 months (approx 21.5 hrs over a 5-6 day week)

Fees 2026

\$13,900 AU/NZ Students per annum

\$17,500 International Students per annum
over the duration of the course **+\$200** enrolment fee

Additional/Possible Costs for Ballet Students:

- Audition videos and photography
- Competitions and associated costs
- Private coaching
- Physiotherapy
- Uniform
- RAD examination entry
- Discounted RAD class fees
- Graduation Ceremony Fee
- VDF Ticket
- Production Levy

Entry Requirements

Students who enter the Certificate IV course will either be completing their final years of schooling or wish to fast track their training towards preparation to audition into the Diploma of Professional Dance (Elite Performance) course. The Certificate IV course is designed to give more advanced skills to younger students on their way to full-time training and a professional career. It offers high level training in all dance styles (Ballet, Character, Jazz and Contemporary). A Certificate IV qualification is equivalent to a year 12 level of qualification.

Acceptance is by audition only (followed by invitation to submit last academic results and zoom interview). Applicants must demonstrate competence in Classical Ballet at Certificate III level and have studied a recognised classical ballet syllabus at Intermediate or above.

*The Certificate IV in Dance has a minimum age requirement of 15 or completion of Year 8 of secondary school. All Students will need to provide The National Ballet School with evidence of an Language, Literacy and Numeracy test in order to enrol.

Auditions

We have an in-person audition, plus invite auditions by appointment if you are unable to attend in October. Please contact the school on enquiries@nationaltheatre.org.au if you have any further questions.

Scheduled general auditions for 2027 intake:

In Person Auditions: 18 October 2026

2027 Course Dates

Term	Start	End
1	27 January 2027	1 April 2027
2	19 April 2027	25 June 2027
3	12 July 2027	17 September 2027
4	4 October 2027	10 December 2027

There is a compulsory National Ballet School Orientation Day where students will be given essential information regarding attendance requirements, assessment and submitting work as well as information on policies from their handbook.

A Graduation Ceremony is scheduled for December each year and all students are expected to attend (including International and Interstate).



Photo credit: Ron Phung

Diploma of Dance (Elite Performance)

Course Code: CUA51520
CRICOS Code: 106317J

This nationally recognised qualification provides intense technical training to develop the young dancer with both technical and performance skills relevant for today’s dance industry.

This qualification reflects the role of dancers working or aspiring to work in professional dance companies, and as such, the expectations of the Diploma level is much higher than the Certificate IV.

At this level students are expected to apply theory and creative skills in different situations. They will be required to display initiative and judgement in planning dance related activities. They now have autonomy in performing complex technical operations and are supported as they work towards being responsible for the planning, coordination and evaluation of the work of others within set parameters.

Our highly skilled trainers provide excellent training in classical ballet, contemporary dance, cultural dance, pointe work, choreographic skills and maintaining fitness through gym and conditioning classes.

Competition Opportunities

Selected students may also have the opportunity to compete in Australian and International Competition, such as: YAGP, AICD, The Margot Fonteyn International Ballet Competition, Kathleen Gorham Memorial Award, Ballet Teachers Workshop just to name a few.

Performance Opportunities

There are three production opportunities per year in our very own heritage theatre and produced by our Artistic Director.

All Diploma students work with our professional stage crew understanding the roles and options used to create production scenes and the extensive OHS requirements for stage productions.

Students have the chance to express and explore their own creativity in our Choreographic Workshop.

Diploma of Professional Dance (Elite Performance) CUA51520

Total number of units = 17

7 core units plus

10 elective units from the list

Core Units

CUADAN517	Refine dance partnering techniques
CUADAN531	Refine dance techniques
CUAPPR512	Develop sustainability of own professional practice
CUAPRF511	Refine performance techniques
CUAPRF513	Prepare for and perform in competitive environments
CUAWHS413	Incorporate anatomy principles into skill development
CUAWHS511	Maintain a high level of fitness for performance

Elective Units

CUADAN511	Refine ballet techniques
CUADAN512	Refine ballet performance skills
CUADAN513	Perform repertoire for corps de ballet
CUADAN514	Perform ballet solo variations
CUADAN515	Refine contemporary dance techniques
CUADAN518	Develop expertise in allied contemporary dance techniques
CUADAN519	Refine pointe work techniques
CUADAN516	Refine cultural dance techniques
CUAFIM511	Source funding for projects
CUAMUP511	Apply theatrical make-up and hairstyles

Duration

12 months full time (approx 30-35hrs a week)

Fees 2027

\$15,900 AU/NZ Students per annum

\$20,000 International Students per annum
+ \$200 Enrolment Fee

Funding Support

VET Student Loan Scheme and Scholarships may be available for eligible candidates.

Additional/Possible Costs for Ballet Students:

- Audition videos and photography
- Competitions and associated costs
- Private coaching
- Physiotherapy
- Uniform
- External excursions and tours
- RAD examination entry
- Discounted RAD class fees
- Graduation Ceremony Fee
- VDF Ticket
- Production Levy

Entry Requirements

Age 16 or over, or the completion of Year 10 or International equivalent. Acceptance is by audition only (followed by invitation to submit last academic results and interview). All Students will need to provide The National Ballet School with evidence of an Language, Literacy and Numeracy test in order to enrol.

Applicants must be at an Advanced Level from a Recognised Classical Ballet Syllabus.

Auditions

We have an in-person audition, plus invite auditions by appointment if you are unable to attend in August. Please contact the school on enquiries@nationaltheatre.org.au if you have any further questions.

Scheduled general auditions for 2027 intake:

In Person Auditions: 18 October 2026

2027 Course Dates

Term	Start	End
1	27 January 2027	1 April 2027
2	19 April 2027	25 June 2027
3	12 July 2027	17 September 2027
4	4 October 2027	10 December 2027

The National Ballet School

ADVANCED DIPLOMA OF PROFESSIONAL DANCE

(ELITE PERFORMANCE)

Photo credit: Jacinta Christos



Advanced Diploma of Professional Dance (Elite Performance)

Course Code: CUA60120
CRICOS Code: 106318H

The National Ballet School's Advanced Diploma is an excellent opportunity for students to pursue Pre-Professional training in Australia prior to auditioning for a company or other desired career pathways. We have structured the program over 2 years to allow students to dedicate time to both the academic requirements of the Advanced Diploma level of training, and have time to develop their career pathway.

The Advanced Diploma qualification reflects the role of dancers with the necessary technique and talent to work in professional dance companies. At this level, students are expected to apply wide-ranging, highly specialised technical, creative, and conceptual skills in order to express ideas and perspectives.

Students will have autonomy in performing complex operations when dancing. The expectation is that students apply initiative and judgement in planning, designing, and with the technical or management functions of dance.

This course is designed to embrace a holistic approach to prepare the dancer to meet industry demands and skills. With two years to complete, students are able to benefit

from a wider range of elective units that will secure their readiness for an elite ballet or contemporary/choreographic pathway .

The second year of the program, whilst completing the units for the formal qualification, also has a strong focus on performing, audition techniques/video submissions, creating choreographic pieces, fringe submissions grant writing and secondments with partnering dance companies. Through the mentorship of the Artistic Director and our expert teachers, emerging artists will graduate with both their Advanced Diploma and a strategy for moving into their chosen career.

Competition Opportunities

Selected students may also have the opportunity to compete in Australian and International Competition, such as: YAGP, AICD, The Margot Fonteyn International Ballet Competition, Kathleen Gorham Memorial Award, Ballet Teachers Workshop just to name a few.

Choreographic Program

Advanced Diploma students have the opportunity to express and explore their own creativity in creating performance work with their fellow dancers. This program is entirely driven by the students giving them a safe and secure platform to explore their imagination and challenge their choreographic ability. They collaborate to create work to present to the artistic director and a selection of work is chosen to be on our program for live audience viewing. This process allows Advanced Diploma students to learn about the concepts of designing, casting, creating and structuring of contemporary or neo classical works. Members of their group take on the challenges of marketing, costume design, lighting and production. Advanced Diploma students are expected to ensure they have experienced a range of roles within the creative process to discover their personal strengths in this Choreographic Program.

Performing Opportunities

There are at least 3 production opportunities per year with 2 in our very own heritage theatre and produced by our Artistic Director.

All students work with our professional stage crew understanding the roles and options used to create production and scenes and the extensive OHS requirements for stage productions.

Duration

24 months full time (approx 30-35hrs a week)

Fees 2027

\$15,850 AU/NZ Students per annum
\$20,100 International Students per annum

Funding Support

VET Student Loan Scheme and Scholarships may be available for eligible candidates.

Additional/Possible Costs for Ballet Students:

- Audition videos and photography
- Competitions and associated costs
- Private coaching
- Physiotherapy
- Uniform
- External excursions and tours
- RAD examination entry
- Discounted RAD class fees
- Graduation Ceremony Fee
- VDF Ticket
- Production Levy

Advanced Diploma of Professional Dance (Elite Performance) CUA60120

Total number of units = 18

4 core units plus

14 elective units from the list

Core Compulsory Units

CUADAN531	Refine dance techniques
CUADAN631	Perform dance repertoire at a professional level
CUAWHS611	Apply advanced gym and weight training to dance
CUAWHS612	Develop strategies for maintaining resilience in a competitive environment

Elective Units

CUACHR611	Create choreography for stage and screen
CUADAN613	Extend ballet techniques to a professional level
CUADAN614	Extend ballet performance skills to a professional level
CUADAN616	Extend pointe work techniques to a professional level
CUADAN617	Extend dance techniques to a professional level
CUADAN618	Extend contemporary dance performance skills to a professional level
CUADAN621	Perform virtuoso contemporary dance techniques
CUAMUP511	Apply theatrical make-up and hairstyles
CUAFIM511	Source funding for projects
CUAPRF511	Refine performance techniques
CUADAN517	Refine dance partnering techniques
CUADAN519	Design and conduct dance learning program
CUADAN518	Prepare for and perform in competitive environments
CUAIND611	Work professionally in the creative arts industry

Entry Requirements

CUA51520 Diploma in Dance (Elite Performance) through The National Ballet School or another approved provider. Direct acceptance to the course without the Diploma is at the discretion of the Artistic Director based on audition and interview. Additionally, there is a minimum age 16 or over, or the completion of Year 10 or International equivalent.

Acceptance is by audition only.

All students will need to complete a Language, Literacy and Numeracy and Digital test in order to enrol.

Applicants must be at an Advanced Level from a recognised classical ballet syllabus.

Auditions

We have an in-person audition, plus invite auditions by appointment if you are unable to attend in August. Please contact the school on enquiries@nationaltheatre.org.au if you have any further questions.

Scheduled general auditions for 2027 intake:

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There is a compulsory Orientation Day in January where students will be given essential information regarding attendance requirements, assessment and submitting work as well as information from the Student course handbook.

A Graduation Ceremony is scheduled for December each year and all students are expected to attend (including International and Interstate).

Awards and Scholarships

The National Ballet School awards scholarships each year, selected by the Artistic Director of Ballet, for students who show great promise or outstanding achievement. For more information, please visit our website.

The Eileen Tasker Scholarship

This Scholarship, named in honour of the **Eileen Tasker OAM**, The National Ballet School’s longest serving teacher. She has taught thousands of students since 1975 and is still imparting her knowledge, expertise and love of ballet to many more young dancers. The scholarship is awarded to a student who, in the opinion of the Director and Staff, has demonstrated their professional potential and can show that financial assistance would significantly benefit them. The funds are to be used primarily for the payment of tuition fees. The amount awarded is at the discretion of the Artistic Director.

The Gertrude Johnson Scholarship

This Scholarship, named in honour of The National Theatre’s founder is valued at \$1000. It is awarded to a student who, in the opinion of the Director and Staff, has demonstrated their professional potential and can show that financial assistance would significantly benefit them. The funds are to be used primarily for the payment of tuition fees.

The Arrellah Indigenous Scholarship

The National Ballet School’s Arrellah scholarship is open to Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander students. Arrellah is an Aboriginal word meaning “Dancing Ground” and the scholarship was conceived by The National Ballet School’s Artistic Director **Damian Smith**. As a proud Wonnarua man of the Upper Hunter Valley, Damian received support in the early stages of his training from several generous individuals and scholarships. He is thrilled to offer this opportunity for full-time dance training and encourage two Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander students who show talent and passion for dance. Applications are welcomed from men and women aged 16yrs+.

To apply for the Arrellah Scholarship, each student should be nominated by their current dance school Director or teacher via an introduction letter including the reasons why they feel this student displays outstanding potential. Please send the letter and any supporting documentation to the Artistic Director, **Mr. Damian Smith** via damian.smith@nationaltheatre.org.au

The National Ballet School

Uniform Requirements



The National Ballet School is proud to partner with Studio 7 for our Uniform and Merchandise in 2026. You will receive 10% off your regular purchases throughout the year, and 20% off Studio 7 Dancewear uniform items

WARM UP ATTIRE

National Ballet School branded Jacket, Own Leg Warmers, Black pants/leggings and shoes or warm boots.

BALLET UNIFORM (FEMALE)

- Paris Blue Misty Leotard (Studio 7)
- Paris Blue Christina Skirt (Studio 7)
- Long Black Circle Skirt (ordered via Tutu Tout Le Monde)
- Paris Blue Practice Tutu (ordered via Tutu Tout Le Monde)
- Ballet Tights
- Canvas or Leather Ballet Shoes (no ribbons)
- matching hair accessory (ribbon or flowers)
- Satin Pointe shoes of your own choice

CONTEMPORARY UNIFORM (FEMALE)

- Black Misty Leotard (Studio 7)
- Pridance Contemporary Tights (Studio 7)
- Bare feet, optional foot thongs or turners (Pro Toes Revolution Studio 7)

CHARACTER UNIFORM (FEMALE)

- Black 3/4 Sleeve Pinch Front Leotard - with 3/4 sleeve
- Erica Style Black Georgette Skirt (mid-thigh length)
- Energetiks
- Black tights - with feet
- Black Leather Showstopper Character Shoes- Bloch
- Accessories/hand-props as required for various repertoire will be provided

JAZZ UNIFORM (FEMALE)

- Paris Blue Misty Leotard (Studio 7)
- Pridance Contemporary Tights (Studio 7) or Convertible Tan Tights (Studio 7) - required for performances)
- Black Performance Shorts (Studio 7)
- So Danca Tan Jazz Shoes (Studio 7)

BALLET (MALE)

- White shirt sleeve leotard or racerback tank
- Black leggings or tights
- Black shorts
- White socks
- Black and White Canvas or Leather Ballet Slippers

CONTEMPORARY (MALE)

- White T-Shirt, singlet or racerback leotard
- Black leggings
- Black Shorts

CHARACTER UNIFORM (MALE)

- White T-shirt
- Black tights
- Black Character Shoes (leather) Boys
- Black Ballet shoes (canvas)





Student Information

Studying at The National Ballet School

Student ID Cards

All students will be issued with a student card and student number. All students must provide a current passport photo on the day of orientation. ID cards are provided free of charge to all enrolled students. A \$10 replacement fee is required if the card is lost or damaged.

Professional Representation

Students who have professional representation should advise their agent at the commencement of their course that they may not be available to take certain work that conflicts with class times. External training should be applied for in writing by the student and will be approved at the discretion of the School Director.

Facilities

The National Ballet School is uniquely positioned as we have our own heritage-listed theatre, right in the heart of St Kilda where productions of large scale can be produced.

Studio 2, The National’s intimate 50 seat black box theatre is used for rehearsals and Unit of Study performances and showings.

Our smaller studios, equipped with television and camera facilities, can be booked by current students for private rehearsal times free of charge.

There is a small library for students consisting of relevant drama and dance related plays, books, journals, magazines, sheet music, videos and CDs. Students also have unlimited access to IT facilities (computers, printer and photocopier).

The school has kitchen facilities that allow students to store and heat food, as well as a lounge area to relax in.

All students are provided a locker to store valuables. This is a service accessed by paying a \$10 key deposit, which is to be returned to the office on completion of your studies at the end of each year.

Orientation Day

Students are required to attend an orientation day prior to the start of their course. The aim of the day is to provide students with information about studying at The National Ballet School, and for interstate or international students, about living in Melbourne. It will include information on the following:

- Information on course of study and timetable for the year
- Fees, charges and VET Student Loans (where applicable)
- Student Handbook, including information on Policies and Procedures (Support services, refunds, deferral, suspension and withdrawal, complaints)
- Student ID cards
- Contact details
- Fire safety, evacuation and OHS
- Unique Student Identifier information

Graduation

The National Ballet School holds an annual graduation ceremony for all students who have successfully completed their accredited training course. The Ballet graduation ceremony is at the end of the training year, usually in mid-December. This is a formal ticketed event and families of students will be invited to attend this annual celebration

Technology Requirements

It is required for all students enrolled in Certificate IV in Dance, Diploma of Professional Dance (Elite Performance) and Advanced Diploma of Professional Dance (Elite Performance) to have a learning device, PC, laptop, or tablet including secure internet to be able to complete all set work and assessments for online delivery and for electronic submission of assignments. Wifi is provided for all full-time students on site at The National.





VET Student Loans

Vet Student Loan Scheme

The National Ballet School’s Diploma and Advanced Diploma courses are recognised under the loan scheme. Students who enrol on any of these courses may be eligible to apply for support under the loan scheme, to pay for all or part of their Course Fees. The VSL scheme is not available to support any other study or living costs you may incur whilst enrolled.

What Is The VSL Scheme?

VET Student Loans (VSL) is a Government student loan scheme for the VET (Vocational Education and Training) sector. It is part of the Commonwealth Government’s Higher Education Loan Program (HELP) to help students pay their fees when studying, with eligible organisations, at Diploma level or above.

How Does It Work?

On enrolment, if you meet the eligibility criteria you can elect to access a loan and the Australian Government will pay (all or in part) the course fees on your behalf.

The debt is incurred gradually, as you enrol in units of study and progress through your course. There are four census dates per year aligned with the four terms of the course where fees become applicable for all enrolled students. Once these census dates occur, you are then liable for the unit tuition fees and if you have elected to access VSL, it is then your debt occurs or increases by the amount of the fees plus any loan fee.

All tuition fees are set at the time of enrolment for the full period that you are studying at The National Ballet School. Census dates are published on the website and are listed in the course handbook.

Students who access VSL will have a loan with the Australian Government which they then repay through the Australian Tax system once they reach the minimum income threshold level for repayment. The loan amounts are released in September every year, please visit DEWR for more information.

Eligibility

You will be eligible to apply via The National Ballet School for a VET Student Loan if you meet the eligibility criteria and the student entry procedure.

Citizenship Or Residency

You must meet and provide proof of one of the following:

- Are an Australian citizen; OR
- Are a New Zealand Special Category Visa holder who meets long term residency requirements; OR
- Are a permanent humanitarian visa holder usually resident in Australia.

Academic Suitability

All students must pass an audition to gain a place on our courses and once you are enrolled on an approved course (Diploma or Advanced Diploma) you also need to meet the academic suitability requirements for the VSL scheme.

You Must Be Able To Provide One of the Following:

- A copy of your Australian Year 12 Certificate (Senior Secondary Certificate of Education); OR
- Display competence at or above Exit Level 4 in the Australian Core Skills Framework in both reading and numeracy through an approved LLN assessment tool and The National Ballet School reasonably believes that the you display competence; OR
- Provide a copy of a successfully completed Australian Qualifications Framework (AQF) Certificate IV or higher qualification that was delivered in English.

For more information and borrowing limitations please visit <https://www.dewr.gov.au>

Living And Studying in Melbourne

Students at The National Ballet School often come from overseas and interstate to study. This section provides some basic information about Melbourne and St Kilda where The National Theatre Melbourne is based.

Location

The National Ballet School is approximately 7kms from the Melbourne City Centre and less than 100 metres from the St Kilda foreshore, Luna Park and the Palais Theatre.

Accommodation For Students

There is rental accommodation in the surrounding areas close to The National Ballet School If you need to find accommodation whilst you are studying in Melbourne there are a number of websites that will help, some include:

www.fdz.com.au/facilities

www.melbournehomestay.org

www.realestate.com.au

Public Transport

Melbourne has a great public transport system consisting of trains, trams and buses. To use public transport, you must have a Myki card. To get to The National Theatre Melbourne in St Kilda you can access by:

Trams: No.96 St Kilda to Brunswick via the city, No.16 from Kew to Melbourne University via the city.

Buses: No.246 from Clifton Hill to Elsternwick

Trains: Balaclava Station is 15 mins walk or direct connection by No.16 tram.

Useful Websites

For more information on Melbourne, St Kilda, Victoria and Australia try the following websites and phone apps.

Visit Victoria: www.visitvictoria.com

Visit Melbourne: www.visitmelbourne.com

City of Melbourne: www.melbourne.vic.gov.au



Application Process

How to Audition for the Full-time Dance Programs in 2026

Students who want to apply for a place on any of The National Ballet School's Full Time courses must complete an audition for a place.

TO APPLY

Melbourne Applicants

Complete the Audition Application Form with all relevant information that has to be provided for your course and pay the application fee. To complete the Application Form you will need:

- Fill in your personal details
- Guardian Details (if under 18 years of age)
- Current School
- The Ballet Syllabus you have trained in
- Your current training level
- List any injuries
- Submit 4 Photos (These do not need to be professionally taken):
 - **Photo 1:** In parallel (6th position) arms by side.
 - **Photo 2:** Standing in degage de côté (seconde) with arms in seconde position.
 - **Photo 3:** In first arabesque (any side)
 - **Photo 4:** Headshot
- Pay the fee of \$70.00

If your application meets the criteria: You will be invited to attend an audition at our St Kilda studios in August.

Interstate Applicants

Step 1: Complete the Audition Application Form with all relevant information that has to be provided for your course and pay the application fee. To complete the Application Form you will need:

- Fill in your personal details
- Guardian Details (if under 18 years of age)
- Current School
- The Ballet Syllabus you have trained in
- Your current training level
- List any injuries
- Submit 3 Photos (These do not need to be professionally taken)
 - **Photo 1:** In parallel (6th position) arms by side
 - **Photo 2:** Standing in degage de côté (seconde) with arms in seconde position
 - **Photo 3:** In first arabesque (any side)
 - **Photo 4:** Headshot
- Provide a video link to your barre work, centre work and solo performance. Detailed information provided within the audition application online.
 - Pay the fee of \$70.00

Step 2: On successful video audition, you will be contacted to submit your last academic record via email and invited to a zoom interview.

Step 3: If your audition and interview are successful, you are required to pay the deposit invoice within 2 weeks of accepting your offer. This will guarantee your position in the course.

Step 4: Pay your fees prior to the course start date. The School Administrator will organise an invoice and advise you on the payment methods.

Step 5: You will receive information on your course term dates and orientation. The enrollment paperwork will then be provided by the School Administrator.

Alumni of The National Ballet School

Alumni

The school's reputation for delivering exceptional training has been proven year after year by the many elite dancers who have successfully carved a career in dance over many decades. A few of The National Ballet Schools notable alumni include:

Imogen Chapman English National Ballet Artist Program (2025 Graduate)

Amber Scott Principal Artist The Australian Ballet

Jarryd Madden Senior Artist The Australian Ballet

Alice Topp Coryphée and Resident Choreographer of The Australian Ballet

Rebecca Yates former Principal The Australian Ballet

Matej Perunicic Corps de Ballet West Australian Ballet

Tristan Gross Corps de Ballet Royal New Zealand Ballet

Tamana Watanabe Artist Singapore Dance Theatre

Rachel Rawlins former Principal Artist The Australian Ballet

Campbell McKenzie former Principal of The Australian Ballet

Rebecca Yates former Principal Artist The Australian Ballet

Justin Zee Artist Singapore Dance Theatre

Aya Watanabe Soloist National Ballet of Prague

Teri Crilly former Demi Soloist Queensland Ballet

Heidi Zolker former Soloist Singapore Dance Theatre

Jemima Scott, Corps de Ballet Member, Royal New Zealand Ballet.

Amber Mitchell-Knight Company Artist Queensland Ballet

Trainers

The Ballet School draws its staff exclusively from industry professionals. Not only does this ensure the currency and relevance of our training but also provides students with valuable contacts in a wide range of performance and technical areas. Our current training staff are led by Mr Damian Smith, Artistic Director of Ballet; details of current staff can be found on our website.



Photo credit: Jacinta Christos



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