# **Welcome to Dee Dots Dance Academy!**

We are so thankful to have you all back again for another dance season. We will have some familiar faces and welcome our new families. This handbook will serve as your guide to Dee Dots Dance Academy and its philosophy of dance education.

# **Philosophy**

Dee Dots Dance Academy is devoted to providing finest dance classes to amplify the overall development of the child. We strive to develop our students with the confidence they will need in everyday life, while teaching them the poise and disciplines of dance. Our pride is seeing them expand their talents through the art of dance.

FOR MORE THAN 54 years Dee Dots has been a place where students and families come to feel loved and promote a positive dance environment. Dance is a commitment, passion and life long investment. Friendships built for a lifetime!

Dates and/or expenses listed in this handbook are subject to change.

- >> Our contact information
- >856-467-8998
- > deedots.dance08@gmail.com
- ➤ Director Justine A Britton

## **Important Dates:**

Classes begin week of Monday, September 11th Swedesboro Christmas Parade November 25th Winter showcase TBD Annual Recital June 8th rehearsal in the morning

Dee Dots Dance Academy Closure Dates 2023-2024 October 31st - Halloween Thanksgiving Break November 22, 23, 24th December 22- Return on January 2nd - Winter Break May 27th - Memorial Day Weekend June 6th - Last Day of Classes

### **STUDENTS**

This is your time to be free. Leave your troubles at the door. We will push you to be the best dancer possible. It is your responsibility to be at class each week and put in 100%. It is important to stretch and warm up before each class in order to reach your maximum potential. Bring your positive attitude and successful work dedication each week.

## **PARENTS**

Your children's success depends on the support of their parents or guardians. We depend on you to be a great role model for your children, having a positive attitude and being dedicated to your child's dance education is very important and leaves a lasting impression on the children.

We are looking for support and dedication for your child, we support other students like a family.

# **Class Placement**

The studio faculty will meet regularly to discuss the students' progress and/or placement. Placement decisions are from many years of teaching experience. Often a child is placed in a particular group or class where he or she will feel confident, in order to promote the development of self-esteem. If students are placed in the incorrect level and is too difficult, this causes a child to be discouraged. Others respond to the challenge of being in a class with students who are more proficient by pushing themselves to work harder. Do not compare your child to anyone else, each child develops at a different rate.

### STAYING INFORMED

We work hard to make the dance experience organized and fun. Please read all emails in their entirety and other studio information.

Newsletters and important updates are emailed to you and on the Dee Dots Dance Academy Facebook/Instagram page and website.

All communication should be done by phone call email or in person. Please do not post questions on social media.

Email deedots.dance08@gmail.com.

Instagram Page [@deedotsdance)

Dee Dots Dance Academy Facebook page (turquoise banner)

### **Weather Cancellations**

Please be sure to check your email for any cancellations due to weather.

## **Dress Code Requirements**

All dress code requirement are listed the website all students must attend class in the correct attire.

## **Tuition**

Tuition paid monthly(September-June). There are no adjustments for months with holidays. Tuition cannot be prorated due to absence. Tuition is due on the 1st of the month and is considered late after the 10th of each month. A \$10.00 late fee will be charged. If you are enrolled join 2 classes the third class is half off.

# **Separation From the Parent**

The process of separating from the parent as the child attends dance class is an important accomplishment of preschool children. As children mature, they begin to identify themselves as independent personalities. In separating from you, the parent, your child is learning

- to develop an interest in the activities of the dance class;
- to feel comfortable with other children in the class;
- to understand that his/her parent will come back and pick him/her up;
- This period may occur anytime, but it is usually short-lived.
- Here are some suggestions that might help you handle the situation:
- Before you leave, see that the child is involved in an activity or is in the hands of a teacher.
- Avoid any long goodbyes
- Ask the teacher for help in separation. We expect the crying!

# **Attendance**

Attendance is very important for you performer, please be sure you child attends classes regularly and is on time.

During the months of January through May, choreography for the recital will be taught and rehearsed. It is important for children to feel completely confident with the choreography and the year-end performance.

### Illness

When your child has a fever, please keep him/her at home until the temperature returns to normal for 24 hours. If there are any lingering signs of illness, such as glassy or watery eyes, listlessness, and drowsiness, please keep your child at home. This will help to ensure that the illness has passed and that your child will be well enough to resume class activities the following week.

### **Tardiness**

Dance is a physical activity that requires the body to be warmed up in order to execute movement safely. Please be sure to arrive to class on time and ready to perform.

### Costumes

All Classes participate in the June Recital Costumes are \$75.00 for each costume and will be broken down into 2-4 payments, depending on the number of costumes per dancer. This does include tights.

### Parking Lot Safety

Please be sure to enter the parking lot slowly. Do not allow your child to play in the parking lot.

**Student and Parent Use of Social Media** (we will use your dancer/performer/ pictures for advertisement purposes)

This policy is to provide Dee Dots Dance Academy students and parents with guidelines to eliminate any confusion concerning the use of social media.

- Students and parents should neither claim nor imply that they are speaking on behalf of Dee Dots.
- Never post anything that make another child feel bad or threaten the self-esteem of students who attend Dee Dots
- If you post videos of class or rehearsals, don't post any choreography in its entirety; Dee Dots Dance Academy owns the copyright to all choreography taught at the studio.
- General Policies
- Parents and students should not interrupt a class in session.
- Only water is allowed in the studios. No food, drinks, or gum.
- No cell phones (This means no emailing, Internet use, or text messaging.)
- Always keep a positive attitude.
- All students must show respect for their teachers at all times.
- Annual June Showcase

Showcase: Tentatively the weekend of June 8th, 2024

### Costumes

We spend many hours determining the correct costumes for each class. Making sure all costumes are age appropriate and look great. Costumes include all accessories (hats, gloves, tights etc.), but do not include shoes.

To ensure that costumes are delivered in time for recital, are organized and distributed to our students, costume orders are placed during the month of December. Costume manufacturers do not accept cancellations or offer refunds; therefore the school does not refund costume deposits.

Costumes will not be given out until they are paid for in full. Parents or guardians accept full responsibility for all expenses, including surcharges and postage for costumes that are ordered late. Costume payments are the responsibility of the parent or guardian.

#### Recital Tickets

Tickets for the June recital will go on sale at Dee Dots Dance Academy in May. Tickets are \$20 No one is admitted to the recital without a ticket.

We welcome all new and seasoned parents and their families into our Dee Dots Dance Academy Family.