

# SHOREDANCE

## BIRKENHEAD DANCE STUDIO

## RAD GRADES 1-8 BALLET EXAMS 2017

Shore Dance ballet students have the opportunity to enter in a Royal Academy of Dance Graded Ballet exam. This is where the students perform their exercises from class in front of an examiner and receive a certificate and an assessment report. The ballet exams are a great experience for students and it also gives them something to work towards during the year. Please note that students must be aged 7 years and over to sit RAD graded ballet exams.

### What happens during an examination?

Students who participate in an examination will enter the exam room with up to 3 fellow students. The examiner will then ask them to perform each of their exercises as they have learnt during their classes. The examiner will assess their performance and they will receive marks for each section, with an overall mark out of 100.

### When and where will they be held?

They will be held at our Shore Dance studios, 17 Enterprise Street, Birkenhead. They could be any date between the 26th of July and the 29th of August (scheduled by Royal Academy of Dance). Please note that exams are often scheduled on week days, and may require students to be taken out of school for a few hours on the day of their exam.

### What will students receive after they have passed their exam?

Each student will receive an assessment report, with a mark out of 100 (must receive 40 out of 100 to pass). If the student passes the exam, they will receive a certificate with their grade (pass, merit, or distinction), and a medal (as shown below – bronze for pass, silver for merit, and gold for distinction).



### How much are the exam fees?

The RAD Grade examination fees are written below:

- o Grade 1: \$87.00
- o Grade 2: \$100.00
- o Grade 3: \$111.00
- o Grade 4: \$120.00
- o Grade 5: \$129.00
- o Grade 8: \$144.00

Please note that these fees include a \$10.00 charge to help towards the various costs of running the exams. If you have more than one child entering in RAD ballet exams, please contact Miss Whitney to find out about the second child discount. Please note that the exam fee is non-refundable (see further details on entry form).

### When are the fees and entry form due?

Entry forms and exam fees must be submitted and paid by the 13th of May. Entry forms may be submitted electronically by completing the online entry form on our website [www.shoredance.co.nz](http://www.shoredance.co.nz). Please note, if you do not return your entry form or pay the fee by the correct date, your child will not be entered in the exam. No late entries can be accepted.

### What are the uniform requirements?

All student must have the following uniform items to sit the exam (all available from the Shore Dance shop):

#### Grades 1 and 2:

- Regulation blue Aimee leotard
- Blue elastic belt
- Pink ballet stockings
- Leather ballet shoes (full sole)
- Black character skirt with blue ribbons
- Black character shoes with low heels
- Hair in a classical ballet bun (requires hair tie, nylon bun net (matching hair colour), and hair pins – please note teachers will be available on the exam day to help with buns)



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### **Grades 3, 4, and 5:**

- Regulation navy Faith leotard
- Navy elastic belt
- Pink ballet stockings
- Leather ballet shoes (full sole) with ribbons from Grade 4 upwards
- Black character skirt with blue ribbons
- Black character shoes with Cuban heels
- Hair in a classical ballet bun (requires hair tie, nylon bun net (matching hair colour), and hair pins – please note teachers will be available on the exam day to help with buns)



### **Grades 8:**

- Regulation black Jane or Bronwyn leotard
- Black elastic belt (ask your teacher if you don't have one)
- Black long chiffon skirt (can be either hired or bought)
- Pink ballet stockings
- Leather ballet shoes (full sole) with ribbons
- Black character skirt with blue ribbons
- Black character shoes with Cuban heels
- Hair in a classical ballet bun (requires hair tie, nylon bun net (matching hair colour), and hair pins – please note teachers will be available on the exam day to help with buns)

It is also very important that all students come to class with their hair in a classical ballet bun (we have bun nets available to buy at our shop, and there is also a video tutorial on our website (uniform page) to demonstrate how to do a classical ballet bun).

### **What preparation is required for the exam?**

It is important that all students entering in the exam attend every ballet class (unless they are sick). Even if they have an injury of some sort, they should still come and watch the class. From Grade 1 upwards, student must attend 2 classes per week.

### **Holiday Classes:**

In the second week of the July school holidays, there will be extra exam practice classes. These will be held between July 17th and 21st. Each child will have three classes during the holidays to work on their exam work. The schedule of these holiday classes will be finalised

once exam entries are in, so that we have a better idea of numbers etc. The total cost for the three extra holiday classes and the mock exam is \$40.00.

Please note that these classes are compulsory for all students entering in a ballet exam, so if you are planning on going away in the July school holidays, please schedule this for the first week, so everyone is available for their classes in the second week.

### **Mock Exam:**

Each group will also have a mock exam where a Shore Dance teacher will be the examiner and will provide feedback to help them work towards their exam.

### **Practicing at Home:**

It is very important that students practice their exam work at home to ensure they are well prepared for their exam. Unfortunately, due to copyright reasons, we are unable to duplicate the music for students. However, the syllabus DVDs are available to purchase from RAD to help with practicing (see below). Also, if you could find a small notebook for your child to record their practicing at home, so they can bring it in to show their teacher each week and the younger students will receive a sticker.

### **Syllabus DVDs:**

RAD syllabus DVDs are available to purchase from Royal Academy of Dance to help the students practice at home. Please contact us if you would like to order a DVD. The costs of the RAD DVDs are below:

- Grades 1-3: \$66.00
- Grades 4-5: \$66.00
- Grade 8: \$38.00

If you have any further queries about the RAD Ballet exams, please do not hesitate to contact me: (027) 424 2444, [contact@shoredance.co.nz](mailto:contact@shoredance.co.nz)

