

Dragonfly Dance 2024 Student Showcase Costume Policy

Welcome to the Costume Policy for our 2024 Student Showcase!

We are excited to share our approach to costumes for this year's show, aiming to keep things simple, affordable, and fun for everyone. Here's what you need to know:

What's Happening

Simplified Costumes	Instead of full matching costumes, we'll use colour themes or a single item to tie outfits together (like a scarf, belt, or waistcoat).
Teacher-Led Concepts	Each teacher will create a costume concept in consultation with their class, ensuring everyone is comfortable with the idea. Dancers within a class are NOT to have discussions about costumes without the teacher being part of the discussion.
Flexible Choices	Dancers will have options to choose items they feel comfortable in that fit the theme (e.g., different necklines, sleeves, pants, or skirts).
Self-Sourced Items	Dancers may source their own costume pieces, which will then be approved by the teacher.
Retail Items	Some costumes may include regular clothing items from retail stores (e.g., pants, waistcoats, or hats) instead of traditional costumes.
Hired costumes	Dragonfly Dance has many costumes in storage that have been used in the past which may be used for the 2024 showcase. In addition, we may see if it is possible to hire costumes used and purchased by other dancers in previous showcases.

Reasoning

Cost-Effective	This approach reduces costs for dancers and the studio.
Simplified Process	Less work for our team and fewer risks with overseas orders.
Inclusivity	Easier to find suitable items in a full range of adult sizes and body types.
Quality Control	Ensures costumes are comfortable, suitable, and of good quality.

Pricing, payment and purchasing

Pricing	Lead by their teacher, each class will discuss what they are prepared to pay for costumes and agree on an upper limit.
	If items are hired from Dragonfly Dance, a hire fee of \$20 will be payable by the dancer.
	Costume items may be hired from other dancers who have worn a costume in a previous showcase, and agree to hire their item back to Dragonfly Dance for another dancer to wear.
Purchase	Ideally, the dancers will either purchase the items themselves directly, or a representative of the class will purchase them and arrange for payment from the other dancers.
	If the Costume Coordinator purchases any costumes they will be reimbursed by Dragonfly Dance, and Dragonfly Dance will then charge the dancers, with an additional admin fee (to be advised).
	Items such as tights, shoes, leotards, and underwear are the responsibility of the individual dancers. They will purchase their items in line with the style and colour decided by the teacher, in consultation with the group.
Payment	All items that need to be purchased will be paid for by the dancers.
	If costumes are hired from Dragonfly Dance (including costumes owned by another dancer), the payment will be deducted from the primary card or account on your Zen Planner profile on a day that has been previously advised.
	Dancers are responsible for payment of individual items (tights, shoes, leotards etc)

Responsibilities

Teachers	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Develop costume concepts with input from their class. • Ensure the costume ideas are comfortable and suitable for all dancers. • Communicate costume plans to their class and consult with dancers. • Liaise with the costume coordinator and get final approval from Studio Owner before announcing to the class. • Check dancers' costume items in class to ensure they are suitable and cohesive for the performance. This may need to be done several times, but all costumes must be seen in class the week before the dress rehearsal on 22 September.
Dancers	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Source their own costume pieces, as required, as per the theme provided by their teacher • Ensure their costumes are approved by the teacher • Bring their costume items to class for the teacher to check. They may need to do this several times, but all costumes must be seen in class the week before the dress rehearsal on 22 September.
Costume Coordinator	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Work with teachers and students to understand costume needs. • Source any needed items and coordinate volunteer helpers for sewing, alterations, and making items. • Ensure all dancers have the required costume elements.
Studio Owner – Showcase Director/Producer	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Provide final approval for all costume concepts. • Oversee the entire costume process to ensure alignment with the showcase vision. • Support teachers, students, and the costume coordinator as needed.

We hope this new approach makes preparing for the showcase enjoyable and stress-free for everyone!