

SECTION 6.3.4: FULL-TIME TRAINING PROGRAM: ASSESSMENT AND REPORTING POLICY

The Australian Ballet School

RESPONSIBLE: Director

VERSION 1 APPROVED BY THE BOARD: December 2020

LATEST VERSION APPROVED: December 2022 (internal review)

REVIEW DATE: December 2025 (unless operational requirements deem otherwise)

POLICY ACCESS LOCATION: Staff Portal, Student Portal, The Australian Ballet School website

1. OVERVIEW

The Australian Ballet School (School) offers a full-time vocational dance training programme for students from Australia and overseas. Students in Levels 4 to 8 have access to a fully integrated dance/academic programme. Dance training is combined with allied dance subjects and an academic programme provided by the Victorian College of the Arts Secondary Schools (VCASS).

Students in Levels 5 and 6 study for the Diploma of Professional Dance (Elite Performance) CUA51520 with allied dance subjects and Year 10 and 11 academic studies. Students in Level 6 may be completing Year 12 academic studies.

Level 7 students study for the Advanced Diploma of Professional Dance (Elite Performance) CUA60120 along with allied dance subjects and Year 12 academic studies, while developing skills to transition into the dance industry through performance and career management. Students undertaking Year 12 studies are unscored in their subjects other than English. They do not receive an ATAR (Australian Tertiary Admissions Rank).

Level 8 students study for the Graduate Diploma of Classical Ballet (11008NAT) where the focus is on preparation at virtuoso level for the transition into the dance industry.

2. PURPOSE

The purpose of this policy is to provide a framework for assessment and reporting of progress of vocational dance training at the School.

The School provides a carefully monitored reporting process to communicate assessment information to students and parents/carers.

<u>Related Policies:</u> This policy should be read in conjunction with the Enrolment Policy (6.2) and *The Australian Ballet School Handbook for Students and Parents*.

3. WHO DOES THIS POLICY APPLY TO

The policy applies to all students enrolled at the School from Levels 4 to 8.

4. POLICY

It is the policy of the School to ensure a reporting process is in place which provides an assessment of students' progress and recommendations to assist future learning.

Progress through levels 4 to 8 of the School is based upon ongoing assessment and end of year assessments/examinations. Enrolment in the following year level is not automatic. To progress to the next year level, a student must pass all practical and academic subjects and attain an acceptable standard in the classical ballet units. It may be considered in the best interests of a student for them to repeat a level, or to discontinue their training at the School. Progression to the next level is always at the discretion of The Director of the School (Director) and artistic staff. Formal notification occurs following the end-of-year examinations.

If a student has been unable to undertake an assessment/examination, this may be rescheduled and/or a review process undertaken in its place.

Students undertaking academic studies concurrently through VCASS should also refer to the *VCASS Policy and Procedure Manual* for details of the Curriculum Framework Policy, the Assessment Policy and the Reporting Policy for these subjects.

Students must fulfil all responsibilities and undertake all activities of the School's vocational dance training programme at their year level to the final day of Term 4 unless permitted otherwise by the Director.

5. PROCEDURES

In dance subjects, all students are assessed by a panel of industry professionals against a list of criteria relevant to the subject and level of study being undertaken. The panel will include the Director, senior artistic staff and other teaching staff. External dance professionals may also be invited to join the panel.

5.1 Post-Assessment Reviews:

Following mid-year assessments and end-of-year examinations, students in Levels 4 to 8 are offered the opportunity to participate in an individual post-assessment review to seek and receive feedback and ask questions on their progress. Reviews are arranged on the following basis:

- Levels 4-7 students participate in a mid-year post-assessment review with the Director in conjunction with the Level 5-7 Student Coordinator, Class Teacher and the Student Counsellor. End-of-year reviews take place after final exams at which the student's enrolment status for the following year is confirmed.
- Level 8 students participate in a mid-year review with the Director in conjunction with their Class Teacher and Student Counsellor. An end-of-year review may be arranged if a student is repeating or otherwise upon request.

5.2 Monitoring of Progress:

Following mid-year assessments and end-of-year examinations, if there are concerns with a student's progress, the student may be placed on monitoring/review for the following semester. Students may also be placed on monitoring/review at other times as initiated by the Director. The School will inform the parents/carers if a student is placed on monitoring/review. A student placed on monitoring/review will receive feedback in the middle of the semester and again after the semester assessments.

5.3 Enrolment Status:

Student enrolment status for all year levels is at the discretion of the Director, in consultation with senior artistic and other teaching staff. Students will be notified of their enrolment status following the end-of-year examinations. Students and parents/carers may discuss any decisions with the Director and senior artistic staff.