

Momentum Arts Studios

CODE OF CONDUCT A GUIDE FOR STUDENTS AND PARENTS

As a condition of enrolment at Momentum Arts Studios, students and their parents or guardians agree to abide by all the policies set forth by MAS, its director, faculty, and staff. MAS reserves the right to terminate any student's enrolment at any time for misconduct or inappropriate actions by either the student or his or her parent(s). We take our roles as a mentors and teachers in your child's life very seriously. It is our objective to inspire a passion for the art of dance in every child who passes through our doors. In the process, we strive to set the right example and help your child (and you) create memories that will last a lifetime.

PHILOSOPHY

MAS is committed to providing high-quality dance classes to enhance the overall development of the child. We provide a safe and positive environment to encourage our students to explore dance with qualified, nurturing teachers. We believe that dance training encourages young people to develop a positive self-image as they increase awareness of their physical being. Along with improving coordination skills and developing muscular awareness, dance classes give children the freedom to express themselves through movement. The highest educational standards are expected from all MAS team members. They are lifelong learners who continue to educate themselves through certification programs, teacher-training schools, conferences, and other learning opportunities.

OUR VALUES

At MAS our values drive our business and inform all of our decision making.

- Fun & Engaging - Our classes and activities are underpinned by this value. For students to derive the most benefit and learn they must enjoy what they are doing!
- Inclusive - We genuinely believe that dance is for everyone. We will work in partnership with parents and students to ensure that class placement is appropriate and we deliver content in a way that meets the needs of learners.
- Community - We will always look for ways to engage our students and families in local activities that promote dance and our students. MAS is itself a community and place which nurtures strong relationships and connections amongst our student and family base.
- Excellence - Staff are committed to ongoing training and development.

FOR OUR STUDENTS

The first step to becoming a successful dancer is making a solid commitment to your classes. Strong technique is a key ingredient and class is where you develop that technique. Come to each class prepared to learn and without personal distractions. Class time is your chance to focus on yourself, so try to leave your concerns or worries at the studio door. True progress is made when you look at each class as an opportunity to become better at what you love to do. Dance full-out, stretch a little further, become more aware of your technique, and make the most of every class. Respect for the teachers is essential. Listen to each correction given, whether it's directed at you or another dancer. A correction is an honour; it shows you how much a teacher cares about your progress as a dancer. Always say thank you when a teacher or choreographer offers you constructive criticism. Nothing can stop those students who apply themselves in every class and appreciate their teachers' knowledge and experience.

FOR THE PARENTS: "WE'RE IN THIS TOGETHER"

We believe that children's success depends on the support of their parents or guardians. Because your commitment to the process makes an enormous difference, we encourage you to be a part of your child's dance education. Our programs rely on a positive atmosphere and educational experience for our faculty and students and their parents. Cooperation between all parents is expected. Showing respect—for other parents, the students, and the faculty—makes an important impression on the children. You are a role model for your child about how to interact with others in a professional setting. Your child's presence at all classes is imperative. The spirit of teamwork and the lesson of dedication are a big part of our school's educational process. Parents and teachers may look at a child's learning from different perspectives. However, we believe they share a common goal: to ensure that every child receives the best possible training, both physically and mentally. Mutual respect among our faculty and our students' parents provides the children with the ultimate care and education.

FOR ALL PARENTS AND STUDENTS UNDERSTANDING DANCE EDUCATION

As a parent, you play an important role in supporting your student financially, but your emotional support is of equal—and perhaps even greater—value. Encourage your child to be the best that he or she can be regardless of what others may achieve. Dance is an individual art form and children need to be allowed to achieve at a pace that's comfortable. No two students will progress at the same rate, even if they experience the exact same training. It's important to encourage children to focus on themselves, give their all, and be satisfied with their own accomplishments. Not all children will develop into professional dancers. One of the primary goals of our faculty is to teach life lessons and skills that offer children the best chance for success. Dance education encompasses far more than technique and the steps your children learn. We believe the discipline of dance training gives young people a better understanding of commitment through learning, experiencing the spirit of teamwork, and discovering what they can accomplish through hard work. Our goal is to educate the minds, bodies, and souls of our students, teaching them the skills needed for a successful life, whether or not they stay involved in dance.

CLASS PLACEMENT

The MAS teaching team regularly discuss the students' progress and/or placement. It is our policy to offer appropriate opportunities to every child. Placement decisions are derived 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. Some students who are placed in a higher level become discouraged, only to lose their passion for dance. Others respond to the challenge of being in a class with students who are more proficient by pushing themselves to work harder. Placement is highly individual and the factors that go into the decision are complex.

DOS AND DON'TS

Some parents may compare their child's progress or class placement to another child's. Watch for this behaviour in your children as well and encourage them to focus instead on their own accomplishments. Looking to other students for inspiration is good; however, making negative comparisons distracts children from focusing on becoming stronger dancers. In addition, speaking negatively about your child's teachers, fellow students, or other parents in front of your child—or other students—could result in problems far beyond your original concerns. Often children will imitate a parent's behaviour with other adults or authority figures. Children learn important lessons from their teachers and parents, acquiring behaviour patterns through their example. Our school's faculty takes that responsibility seriously. It's our philosophy to encourage our students to feel, think, and act respectfully toward their peers, the adults in their lives, and themselves. If you have questions or concerns about your child's dance education (such as progress or class placement), please discuss them with your child's teacher or the director. Talking only to other parents can lead to misinformation and confusion. Please contact the school office to set up an appointment; do not approach your child's teacher

or the director between or during classes or make contact outside of the school. If you do request a conference, please listen carefully to what your child's teachers have to say. They spend a significant amount of time with your child and offer expertise in the field of dance education. Class placement of students is highly individual and the factors that go into the decision are complex.

DISCIPLINE POLICY

In order to maintain a happy, healthy, professional environment, students are taught the importance of being a part of the group. We encourage students to have respect for other students, the teachers and staff, and studio property, and we foster the development of good habits and compliance with rules of conduct. Our staff and faculty are trained to use constructive techniques of discipline to maintain class control and handle individual misbehaviour.

- Children who exhibit unacceptable behaviour or attitudes are told what is wrong and directed to a positive alternative approach or behaviour.
- If a child strikes another child, the two are respectfully separated and each is asked to explain what happened. They are then asked to help solve the problem, talk to each other, and reconcile with one another.
- Children who are disruptive will be respectfully asked to stop the behaviour. If the behaviour is repeated, they will be reminded of it and told how it affects others. If the disruption continues, the children involved will be asked to sit down for a short period of time (usually three to five minutes) before re-joining the class.
- If a child's misbehaviour continues to disrupt the class, the parent or guardian will be called to pick up the child.

TERMINATION OF ENROLMENT

In certain circumstances, when it is in the best interest of one or more students or MAS, it may be necessary for MAS to terminate a student's enrolment. All reasonable efforts will be made to correct a problematic situation before terminating enrolment. Reasons for termination of enrolment include the following (without limitation):

- Disruptive or dangerous behaviour by students or their parents
- Abuse of other students, children, staff, or property
- Inability of MAS to meet the student's needs
- Breach by the student (in the case of adult students) or student's parent or guardian (in the case students under 18 years of age) of any of MAS's terms, conditions, codes or policies
- Failure of the student (in the case of adult students) or student's parent or guardian (in the case students under 18 years of age) to pay on time and in full

TARDINESS

Dance is a physical activity that requires the body to be warmed up in order to execute movement safely. Late students miss the proper warm-up and/or barre and therefore may sustain injury. Students who arrive more than 10 minutes late may be asked to observe class for reasons of personal safety.

COMMUNICATION

Please direct any enquiries relating to your individual child to momentumartsstudios@gmail.com or phone 0410360256. Important newsletters, notices and term fee invoices will be sent via email. Please ensure you provide us with a current email address. Hard copies of notices will be available from the studio and uploaded to our website. To support our communication to you please also join our closed MAS Families group on Facebook and Like the MAS public page. You can also follow us on Instagram @momentum_arts_studios

Note - social media does not replace our email, phone or direct communication at the studio. If you have direct questions pertaining to your child's enrolment speak to your teacher or contact the office.