EXAMINATION HANDBOOK

– LJR CURRICULUM STUDENTS ONLY –

What is a Dance Examination?

In the LJR Curriculum, we follow syllabi in our Ballet, Jazz and Tap classes. The content is taught to students throughout the year. A Ballet, Jazz or Tap Examination is a process by which the dancers perform the syllabus work to an external judge from the association of the syllabus. **All Examinations are held at LJR Dance Academy.** Once a dancer has completed their examination, they are eligible to progress into the next grade the following year. Students receive certificates and awards for the completion of an exam and older students additionally receive SACE points. There is no exam for any General Class.

Enrolment in Examination Classes:

By enrolling in the LJR Curriculum your dancer may have the opportunity to sit an examination.

Reasons why your dancer may NOT be eligible to sit the exam:

- Does not fit the strict age requirements given by the society.
- Enrolled in the class too late in the year.
- Does not yet have the syllabus work to an exam standard.

If your dancer does not complete the exam, they may be able to move up to the next grade if their age and abilities permit. This is at the discretion of LJR management.

Examination Confirmation:

If the above-mentioned dot points do not apply to your dancer, you will receive an email asking if your dancer would like to participate in the examination. You will need to confirm via email if you would like for your dancer to complete the examination at your earliest convenience. If you would not like your dancer to sit the exam, please also let us know at your earliest convenience.

Confirming to this email confirmation you are agreeing to the below:

- To pay in full the examination fee before the date of the exam. Even if your dancer is unable to attend the exam, you will still be required to pay the fee. If you can provide a medical certificate, you will receive a credit from the society.
- To pay in full for your allocated exam attire before the date of the exam.
- To purchase the correct stockings, shoes, and attire.

Fittings of Leotard, Skirt and Shorts:

LJR Dance Academy will source the leotard & skirt/shorts which you will be required to purchase from us. Please understand that this attire must fit like a glove on the day of the exam. It is not for the dancer to grow into. Dancers will lose marks for wrinkly or loose-fitting exam attire. Your dancer will be fit by Jadey, Lacie or Sherri for their correct size during class time. Students will be asked to give verbal confirmation that the attire feels good on their body. We understand that some children can have sensory issues to materials and straps, please let us know as we are more than happy plan.

BALLET EXAMINATION

Attire:

What you need:

- Leotard that you purchased from LJR (Do not wear the attire to class until after the exam)
- Skirt that you purchased from LJR (Do not wear the attire to class until after the exam)
- Theatrical Pink Stockings that you purchased from Dance Zone (must be stain free)
- Canvas Split Sole Capezio Ballet shoes that you purchased from Dance Zone (must be stain free)

Stockings and Ballet shoes must fit skin-tight. Dancers will lose points for lose fitting attire

Budget for Attire:

- Pre-primary: Leotard ($47 - $65) Skirt ($40-$55)
- Primary to Grade 2: Leotard ($45-$60) Skirt ($30-$50)
- Grade 3 to Advanced 2: Leotard ($45-$65) No skirt for these grades

Prices are not exact but will be somewhat like the prices mentioned above

Character Skirt & Tutu:

- If you are in Grade 1 - Intermediate, you will need to purchase your own Character Skirt. This is the Energetiks Matilda Ribbon Skirt in Blue. Here is the link to the skirt or you can purchase through Dance Zone https://www.energetiks.com.au/character-skirt-with-ribbon

- If you are in Advanced 1 or Advanced 2 you will need to purchase a navy half tutu.

You can purchase both the Character skirt and Tutu through Dance Zone.

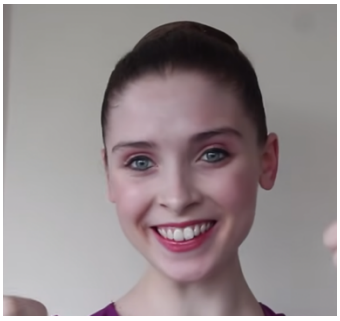
Dates:

An exact schedule will be emailed closer to the date of the exam.

Potential Dates: Mid/end of November

Hair and Face:

Hair must be extremely neat, and face must be clean and fresh.



Hair for the ballet exams is a mid-high, flat bun: Tutorial: https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=Ae3Ks-fI3e4&t=102s

***You should be able to see the front of the bun from the front when your dancers head is straight.**

No makeup is necessary. Lip gloss, blush and mascara optional.

Theory:

Students in Primary grade and above will need to purchase a Theory Book from LJR. This book has all the exam questions in it from Primary to Advanced 2. Students will be asked a set of theory questions during their exam. Theory is a part of their grade and students who answer incorrectly will lose points. Please have your dancer fill out their Theory book at home and practice answering the questions with the Theory Practice video found at this link.
https://youtu.be/1hkRNIIfF_g

***Bring your Theory Book to the exam for the examiner to check.**

Fees:

Please note there is an additional registration fee. (Subject to change at the societies discretion)

Prices do not include GST so this will be added to the invoice.

Results and Awards:

Summary of Costs for 2026

GRADES	PRICE	MAJORS	PRICE
Pre-Primary	$ 53.00		
Primary	$ 56.00	Intermediate	$ 116.00
Grade 1	$ 59.00	Advanced 1	$ 124.00
Grade 2	$ 63.00	Advanced 2	$ 129.00
Grade 3	$ 66.00	Solo Seal	$ 151.00
Grade 4	$ 69.00		
Grade 5	$ 73.00		
Grade 6	$ 83.00		

The above table represents the A.I.C.D. examination/assessment costs. To assist in covering GST and transport costs incurred by the host School in the running of Examinations and/or Assessments, they may charge an administration fee.

Students receive a certificate stating their grade, a small pin medallion and a report of the examiners feedback. For grades Primary and above there is a 'Special Medallion Award' given to ONE dancer with the highest grade (if grades are not high enough no award will be given).

Pre-Primary students will receive: Passing Grade

Grading System for Primary and above:
Required level not attained - less than 50
Pass 50 – 54
Merit 55 – 64
Commended 65 – 74
Highly Commended 75 – 84
Honours 85 - 100

JAZZ EXAMINATION

Attire:

What you need:

- Leotard that you purchased from LJR
- Shorts that you purchased from LJR
- Shiny Tan Fiesta Stockings that you purchased from Dance Zone (must be stain free)
- Black Jazz shoes that you purchased from Dance Zone (must be stain free)
- Grade 7-9 will need black footless over tights from Dance Zone NOT shorts

Stockings and Jazz shoes must fit skin-tight. Dancers will lose points for lose fitting attire

Budget for Attire:

- Leotard ($45-$60) Shorts ($40-$55)

Prices are not exact but will be somewhat like the prices mentioned above

Dates:

An exact schedule will be emailed closer to the date of the exam.

Potential Dates: Late November/Early December.

Hair and Face:

Hair must be extremely neat, and face must be clean and fresh.
Pre Junior to Grade 2: 2 Buns https://studio.youtube.com/video/xvoweP9AjVU/edit
Grade 3 and Above: High Bun. Must be high enough so that when the dancer lays on their back the bun is on top of the head, not under the head.
No makeup is necessary. Lip gloss and some blush is optional.

Fees:

Please note there is a small additional registration fee. (Subject to change at the societies discretion)
Prices do not include GST so this will be added to the invoice.

MODERN JAZZ SYLLABUS REVISED						
LEVEL	EXAM I.D. CODE	TIME 1 CANDIDATE	TIME 2 CANDIDATES	TIME 3 CANDIDATES	TIME 4 CANDIDATES	FEE
Pre Modern	RPMJ	15 minutes	15 minutes	20 minutes	20 minutes	62.90
Junior Modern	RJMJ	15 minutes	15 minutes	20 minutes	20 minutes	62.90
Grade 1	RMJ1	15 minutes	18 minutes	20 minutes	25 minutes	76.00
Grade 2	RMJ2	15 minutes	18 minutes	20 minutes	25 minutes	76.00
Grade 3	RMJ3	25 minutes	28 minutes	30 minutes	35 minutes	86.00
Grade 4	RMJ4	25 minutes	28 minutes	30 minutes	35 minutes	96.00
Grade 5	RMJ5	40 minutes	40 minutes	50 minutes	55 minutes	119.00
Dorothy Gladstone	MJ/DGA	STAGE PERFORMANCE				175.00
Grade 6	RMJ6	40 minutes	45 minutes	55 minutes	60 minutes	140.00
Grade 7	RMJ7	40 minutes	45 minutes	55 minutes	60 minutes	144.00
Grade 8	RMJ8	45 minutes	45 minutes	55 minutes	1 hour	144.00
Grade 9	RMJ9	50 minutes	55 minutes	1 hr 5 mins	1 hr 10 mins	155.50
Modern Jazz Shield	MJ/SH	STAGE PERFORMANCE				210.00
Teachers' Certificate	RMJ/ TC	2 hours	/			290.00
Teachers' Diploma	RMJ/ TD	2½ hours	/			465.00

Results and Awards:

Students receive a small medal, and a report of examiners feedback.

Grading highest to lowest:

Honours Plus
Honours
Highly commended
Commended
Pass
Fail

Theory:

Grade 5 and above students will be asked a set of Theory questions in their exam.

GRADE 5

THEORY

Q.	What are some of the benefits of exercise?
A.	Improved strength and flexibility
Q.	Describe the dance term "isolation".
A.	Controlled movement of one section of the body
Q.	What are the 3 main principles of stretching?
A.	Stretching, tensing and relaxing.
Q.	What are the benefits of the sideward stretch?
A.	Supples the waist, strengthens and stretches the muscles at the side of the body.
Q.	What are the benefits of the forward stretch?
A.	Stretches and strengthens all the muscles at the back of the legs.
Q.	Describe the style known as "Lyrical"
A.	Modern, flowing movements based on classical lines.
Q.	What is a Grand Jete?
A.	A large leap.
Q.	Describe the dance term "Triple Run"
A.	3 quick steps in triplet rhythm taking the first 2 steps on demi pointe, the 3rd step en fondu and travelling well.

GRADE 6

THEORY

Q.	Why is it important to stretch in parallel as well as turn-out?
A.	This helps to achieve a greater range of movement and flexibility
Q.	What are the benefits of the upward stretch?.
A.	Separates the diaphragm from the pelvic girdle giving greater breathing space to the lungs, and enabling the body to bend or stretch in any direction.
Q.	How should 'breath' be used in dancing?
A.	As a general rule, 'breathing in' should be done on all raising exercises, 'breathing out' when lowering or relaxing.
Q.	What is a Jazz Pas de Bouree?
A.	Three small steps generally finished in 4th in preparation for Pirouette.
Q.	Describe the 'split leap in 2nd'.
A.	Extend both legs to 2nd simultaneously whilst showing the highest possible leap.
Q.	Describe the dance style known as 'Contemporary'
A.	A wonderfully expressive dance language not bound by rigid technique. It is sometimes soft, graceful and delicate or can be hard, percussive and fast.
Q.	What are chaines?
A.	Small, quick steps turning to a form a 'chain'.
Q.	Explain the dance position known as 'Z Sit'
A.	Sit with one leg bent in front of the body and the other bent behind the body. Both feet pointed, body erect.

GRADE 8

THEORY

Q.	Why is flexibility important in a dancer?
A.	Training in flexibility increases the range of movement around a joint and lessens the chance of injury.
Q.	What is a Fouette pirouette?
A.	A pirouette where the working leg makes a ronds de jambe en l'air or is held securely in 2nd whilst turning.
Q.	What are the benefits of splits?
A.	Splits directly benefit forward and backward kicks. Legs must be well pulled up and feet pointed whilst stretching across the hip joint and the muscles at the back of the leg.
Q.	What is a Russian Jete?
A.	A grand jete where the split changes in the air. It can be done from a bent front leg which is called a 'hitch'.
Q.	Describe the position we call 'Contemporary 2nd'.
A.	A parallel position with feet apart directly under the line of the hips.
Q.	What is the 'Axial Skeleton'?
A.	The axial skeleton comprises the skull, vertebral column, rib cage and sternum.
Q.	Name the major bones of the leg.
A.	Femur or thigh bone, Tibia and Fibula in the lower leg.
Q.	Where are hinge joints located?
A.	Elbow and knee joints.

GRADE 7

THEORY

Q.	Why do we limber on the floor?
A.	Taking the weight off the legs improves the ability to stretch, it also helps to keep the body correctly aligned whilst improving flexibility.
Q.	Describe the 'Triangle Stretch'
A.	Reach directly forward to touch the floor keeping the back straight. This creates a triangle between the body, legs & floor.
Q.	What are the benefits of kicks?
A.	Kicks are an excellent way to improve flexibility. Legs must be well pulled up and feet pointed whilst keeping the 'core' engaged.
Q.	Why do we study Expressive or Lyrical Dance?
A.	To further extend the style & emotion of the dancer.
Q.	Describe dance position known as 'Long Sit'.
A.	Sitting on the floor, body erect, legs extended straight in front, feet pointed or flexed.
Q.	Describe the hamstring muscles?
A.	3 separate muscles extending from the base of the pelvis, passing the back of the knee & attaching to the top of the tibia in the lower leg
Q.	Name the major bones of the arm.
A.	Humerus in the upper arm, Radius and Ulna in the lower arm.
Q.	Where is the pivot joint located?
A.	At the top of the spine (Atlas & Axis) & the lower arm (Radius & Ulna).

GRADE 9

THEORY

Q	Why is limbering important to a dancer?
A.	A well limbered body produces dance with a broader style as well as the ability to show more complex movements.
Q.	What is a pirouette?
A.	A spin on one leg. The spin can turn away from the supporting leg, which is en dehors, or towards it, called en dedans.
Q.	What is important in a 'layout' kick?
A.	Weight forward pushing through the hips, maintaining the height of the kick while extending the arms behind.
Q.	What is an Axel turn?
A.	An Arial pirouette. Begin with an outward rond de jambe and spring into the air tucking both legs under the body.
Q.	Describe 'Stride' or 'Straddle' position.
A.	Sitting high on the tail bone with legs fully stretched and extended as far as possible to the sides.
Q.	What is the 'Appendicular Skeleton'?
A.	The appendicular skeleton includes the limb bones of the arms and legs, and the girdles that connect them to the axial skeleton. That is the shoulder girdle and the pelvic girdle.
Q.	Name the bones of the foot?
A.	Tarsals, Metatarsals and the Phalanges.
Q.	Where are ball and socket joints located?
A.	Hip and shoulder joints.

TAP EXAMINATION

Attire (Same as Jazz Exam):

What you need:

- Leotard that you purchased from LJR
- Shorts that you purchased from LJR
- Shiny Tan Fiesta Stockings that you purchased from Dance Zone (must be stain free)
- Black Jazz shoes that you purchased from Dance Zone (must be stain free)
- Grade 7-9 will need black footless over tights from Dance Zone NOT shorts

Stockings and Jazz shoes must fit skin-tight. Dancers will lose points for lose fitting attire

Budget for Attire:

- Leotard ($45-$60) Shorts ($40-$55)

Prices are not exact but will be somewhat like the prices mentioned above

Dates:

An exact schedule will be emailed closer to the date of the exam.

Potential Dates: Late November/Early December.

Hair and Face:

Hair must be extremely neat, and face must be clean and fresh.
Pre Junior to Grade 2: 2 Buns https://studio.youtube.com/video/xvoweP9AjVU/edit
Grade 3 and Above: High Bun. Must be high enough so that when the dancer lays on their back the bun is on top of the head, not under the head.
No makeup is necessary. Lip gloss and some blush is optional.

Fees:

Primary	$60
Grade 1 Tap	$70
Grade 2 Tap	$80
Grade 3 Tap	$90
Grade 4 Tap	$100
Grade 5 Tap	$110
Grade 6 Tap	$120
Grade 7 Tap	$130
Grade 8 Tap	$140

Results and Awards:

Students receive a small medal, and a report of examiners feedback.
Grading highest to lowest:
Honours
Highly Commended
Commended
Pass
Fail