

**BACKSTREET
DANCE**

WORK EXPERIENCE PROGRAM

Student Teacher Application Form

Open to 12yo+ current students
(read eligibility enclosed)

**Deadline to return:
End of 1st week of each Dance Term**

Studio: 170-182 Mayers Street, Manunda
Postal: PO BOX 275, Bungalow QLD 4870
Email: cairns@backstreetdance.com.au

Mobile: 0407 995 182
Studio: (07) 4032 1384
(during studio hrs only)

Backstreet Dance
Directors: Deborah & Jeffrey Storer
ABN: 64 075 206 274

www.backstreetdance.com.au

STUDENT TEACHER

(Voluntary Position)

What is a Student Teacher?

The Purpose of a Student Teacher:

- To act as a confident representative of the class
- To ensure the safety of the students in class, rehearsals and the production
- To improve the confidence of students
- To learn the choreography of the class and perform on stage at the production
- Prepare the students at rehearsals and the production
- Student Teacher's do not get paid – it's a voluntary position – you contribute your own time in order to gain a valuable experience not only in dance but in life skills
- To gain experience - especially if you ever want to be an Assistant Teacher (paid employee)

How to Achieve this Purpose:

- To commit yourself to 4 classes (the last half of the dance term) with your allocated class – plus rehearsals and any possible extra classes to make up for public holiday (if it falls in the last half of the term). This is important in developing rapport with your students
- To learn the choreography of the selected class and perform it confidently on stage (remember that the students watch you, therefore your confidence in the moves is vital)
- Get to know the students in your class – know their names. Write down a list of names to aid in your memory
- Interact with your students before, during and after class – general greetings
- **IMPORTANT: Wear Backstreet dancewear - we'll supply you a 10% discount voucher, to be used to purchase one item. This way you are recognised as part of our team and look professional.**
- You are not authorised to deal with student/parent conflict, first aid (unless you are qualified) and not authorised to do warm-ups (unless provided training) or teach choreography. Upon selection, you will receive some training that will outline exactly what you can and cannot do – children's safety and self-esteem is important – therefore your role needs to be clear in order to achieve this purpose. Therefore you will need to take your role, even though voluntary – seriously! A professional approach is expected.

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- Attend the rehearsal allocated for your class at the venue where the production will be held
 - o Arrive 15-30 minutes prior to the rehearsal starting to liaise with students.
 - o Arrive in full costume – be a leading example
 - o Know the stage positions (have a list if necessary) of each student you are responsible for
- Meet students backstage AT LEAST 3 songs prior to their performance – you will be responsible for them (take their safety seriously)
 - o Ensure their costumes are in order
 - o Do appropriate stretches and warming up with them backstage (pending venue)
 - o Get them ready to have fun and smile on stage
- After the performance, ensure parents meet their child backstage to collect them. Do not let any student, at any time, walk off by themselves. You may need to remind parents as they take them backstage to come back and collect them after they perform. Inform them it is due to safety.
- Attend the Compulsory Student Teacher Training session (date and time given to you in your Agreement). This is compulsory even if you have been a Student Teacher before.
- Go out on stage at the end of each Production you are in attendance, to be recognised.

What are the minimum Requirements to be a Student Teacher?

1. Dance at Backstreet for at least 6 months
2. Minimum age is 12 years old
3. You **MUST** be very confident in your own dancing – because students look up to you!!
4. Intermediate to advanced level of dance skill/ability
5. Love of children
6. Not have any visible tattoos or multiple piercings
7. A positive attitude
8. Responsible and Punctual
9. Maturity (professional)
10. Willing to learn and take direction from your Teacher/Director
11. Be willing to interact with your students before, during and after class
12. Personal pride in your own appearance (remember you are a role model for these children)
13. Commitment to your allocated class – every week where possible
14. Commitment to attend any allocated staff meetings
15. NOTE: You will only be allocated a class that you have experience in eg. If you learn jazz, you will only be allocated a jazz class. If you learn hip hop, you will only be allocated a hip hop class. If you have experience in all styles, you could be allocated any class you choose.

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How does the process work?

1. Complete this form and submit it back to Reception or via email BY THE END OF THE 1st WEEK OF THE TERM.
2. Deborah will inform you WITHIN THE 2ND WEEK whether you have a position as a Student Teacher or not – the interest is high for this role – therefore a waiting list has been formed. Be patient and determined and you will eventually experience this role. If you continue to miss out each term – a requirement may be missing eg. Confidence, reliable, lack of communication. If so – make it a goal to improve your skills so you can be a Student Teacher eg. It is a huge benefit if you can do the splits because tiny tots and prejunior students learn the splits every week.
3. If chosen, you will receive an Agreement that outlines the conditions, your commitment dates, etc. Please sign and return back to Reception

NOTE: Do not, at anytime, ask Deborah or your Teacher questions about Student Teaching in your own class eg. Preteen, Teen. Respect other students – a dance class is focussed on teaching dance, not student teaching. Therefore it is Deborah or the Teacher's focus to teach a dance class, not take up time in answering questions that could be best done at a more APPROPRIATE TIME – emailing Deborah is the best method or leave a message at Reception and the message will be passed on.

IMPORTANT NOTE TO PARENTS – costs involved with work experience:

Costume Hire – you will be required to hire a costume (at no charge) for the performance, as you will need to look the same/similar to the students and what they are wearing. You will receive this costume, (along with other details of what to wear), towards the end of the term (it will be the same time other students receive their costume).

However note you may be required to wear your own pants/tights or a plain singlet/leotard/shirt. If this is the case, we generally ask for black. Eg. Jazz: Black tights; Hip Hop; black pants.

Show Tickets – Parents/friends who wish to watch you on stage achieve your goal of student teaching, will need to purchase a ticket to watch the show. Tickets can range from about \$11 to \$15 per person per show. Please factor these extra costs in when deciding on whether you want to be a Student Teacher.

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STUDENT TEACHER APPLICATION FORM

Applying for Term: _____ Year: _____

Today's Date:	
Student Full Name:	
Your Mobile Number:	
Your Email Address:	
Parent/s Name:	
Parent's Phone No:	
Parent's Email:	
Parent's Signature: (giving you permission to apply for Student Teacher)	
How long have you been dancing at Backstreet for?	
What style of dance are you most competent in?	
Why do you want to be a Student Teacher?	
What strengths/talents could you contribute to the classroom?	
What days/classes are you available to volunteer?	
Do you meet all the requirements?	
Are you a leading example in your own classes? ie. is your attitude & behaviour of a high standard?	
Have you had experience as a Student Teacher? If so, describe when and what you learnt?	
What goals do you have in mind when being a Student Teacher?	
<i>If need more room to answer the above questions, feel free to attach separate sheets of paper.</i>	

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