

BACKSTREET DANCE

WORK EXPERIENCE PROGRAM

Student Teacher Application Form

Open to current students of 12yo+
(also 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 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 and parents 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 compulsory training sessions and meetings with the Director

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.

The Purpose of a Student Teacher:

1. Represent Backstreet Dance professionally and positively with:
 - What you wear (correct uniform)
 - Your behaviour
 - Your presence
 - Your communication
 - Your attitude
2. Before class
 - Connect with students & parents in the waiting area
 - Complete basic duties listed on your checklist
 - Assist the line up process
 - Remember student names

3. During class

- Improve students' confidence
- Show enthusiasm
- Give individual attention and corrections when instructed
- Follow the Teacher and Assistants directions
- Learn and remember the choreography

4. After class

- Follow students out and lead them back to the waiting area
- Give positive feedback to Parents
- Ensure the students are safe
- Complete basic duties as listed on the checklist

5. At rehearsals & the Production

- Assist the Assistant to stretch and warmup the class
- Encourage the students
- Lead the students backstage and assist with the line up process
- Encourage students
- Enforce backstage rules

Performing on stage with the students:

Students Teachers will ONLY be allowed to rehearse and perform on stage with the students after approval of the Director. This is a new rule. Why?

It is not a great thing when the Student Teacher forgets the choreography on stage or is not confident in giving cues to the students on stage. Our whole focus at Backstreet is to improve confidence and have fun. Students rely on Student Teachers to reassure them on stage, so they have fun and feel confident. Therefore, it is now a requirement that Student Teachers prove they know the choreography off by heart without looking at the Assistant Teacher in the room.

In order to help you achieve this goal of remembering the choreography – you will be provided a time where you can come into the studio to film the Teacher dancing the choreography, so you can practice at home.

A performance approval session will be set where you will be asked to perform the choreography by yourself and to showcase confident clear cues (as if the students are in the room). You will have only 1 go to achieve this (because we must act as if you are on stage at the performance and really, you only have 1 go on the stage).

If you are not approved, you can still attend Party Week and rehearsals, but you are not required to perform the choreography on stage. You can still support and assist the students.

If you are approved, you will be required to perform the choreography at Party Week, rehearsals and the Production.

How to Achieve this Purpose:

Training:

- Attend the following compulsory Workshops, Meetings and Sessions:
 - o Student Teacher Training session (date and time is listed on the website – please review it now before submitting this form). This is compulsory even if you have been a Student Teacher before.
 - o You will be required to observe your class the week before you start teaching (this will be the week after your training). This will give you the opportunity to observe the Qualified Assistant Teacher and write notes about the strategies they use
 - o You will receive a dropbox link of the class's choreography to learn at home
 - o A Performance Approval session with the Director to showcase if you remember the choreography. If you gain approval, you will have the opportunity to perform with your students

Class time:

- Wear a Backstreet Uniform – we supply you a 10% discount voucher, so you can invest in at least 1 logo item. Also, to follow the rest of Uniform requirements as listed in the Agreement if you are chosen
- 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

Note: 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. You will need to take your role, even though voluntary – seriously! A professional approach is expected.

Rehearsals & the Production:

REHEARSALS:

Attend the rehearsal allocated for your class at the venue where the production will be held

- o Arrive 30 minutes prior to the rehearsal starting to liaise with students.
- o If you are NOT performing – wear Backstreet uniform
- o If you are performing – wear costume, hair and makeup

PRODUCTION (even if you are not performing with your students):

Meet students backstage AT LEAST 5 songs prior to their performance – you will be responsible for them (take their safety seriously)

- Ensure their costumes are in order
- Do appropriate stretches and warming up with them backstage
- Get them ready to have fun and smile on stage. Assist the line up process
- After the performance, ensure Parents meet their child backstage to collect them. Do not let any student under 7yo 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.

AFTER THE PRODUCTION

- Assist the team with anything they need assisting with eg. collecting props
- Return your costume, preferably the first day of Costume Returns

How does the Application 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. WITHIN THE 2ND WEEK, you will find out if you have been selected to be a Student Teacher
 - a. We will text you.
 - b. Receive an Agreement that outlines the conditions, your commitment dates, etc. Please sign and return by the deadline listed on the paperwork.
 - c. Attend the compulsory meeting at the end of Week 2 (this applies to Term 1 and Term 4) or Week 3 (this applies for Term 2 and Term 3).

Note: 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.

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:

Uniform

You will be required to purchase at least one Backstreet logo item to wear with matching Backstreet colours (to create a uniform). We will provide a 10% discount voucher for the dancewear.

Costume Hire (if approved to perform)

- You will be given a costume so you look the same/similar to your students.
- You not be charged for your Student Teacher costume for the performance
- 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).
- You will be required to wear your own plain back pants/tights or a plain singlet/leotard/shirt. Please be aware this is your responsibility to obtain.

Show Tickets (if approved to perform)

- 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 \$13 per person per show.
- Please factor these extra costs in when deciding on whether you want to be a Student Teacher.

STUDENT TEACHER APPLICATION FORM

Applying for Term: _____ Year: _____

Today's Date:	
Student Full Name:	
Student's Mobile Number:	
Parent/s Name:	
Parent's Mobile Number:	
Parent's Signature: (giving you permission to apply for Student Teacher)	
How long have you been dancing at Backstreet for?	
Have you looked at the WORK EXPERIENCE page of our website and noticed the compulsory training date and time?	
Are you able to commit to the compulsory training date listed?	
Are you able to attend every week of your work experience (you will start 2-3 weeks after the dance term starts)?	
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? Please look at the Term's timetable and list the days and class codes only for classes aged 3yo to 9yo Eg. Mon 1A	
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?	

If need more room to answer the above questions, feel free to attach separate sheets of paper.