



Dance Centre Kenya

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Dear Parents and Dancers:

We hope you are all safe and healthy during this difficult time. We have put a **virtual dance schedule** (find attached) together starting on the **20th of April through the 23rd of May**. Basically, we will try to make it as “normal” a half term as possible. If we find out that we are able to reopen the studios at the end of these five weeks, much of the scheduling will have to be reworked for the second half of term. If we remain in the same situation in terms of pandemic measures, we will simply take a one-week half-term break and do another five weeks of online classes.

Dance is such an integral part of so many of our children’s lives that not having classes not only takes away a major piece of their daily routines, but also their outlet for self expression. And the discipline of mind and body offered through dance is something I’m sure none of us want the kids to take months and months off of.

In an effort to alleviate some financial stress we have brought all of our tuition rates down by approximately 40%, and hopefully it helps to do two half term payments instead of everything at once. We hope this will not only help the parents who are suffering financial hardship throughout this crisis, but also make it possible for the kids to take even more dance classes, keeping them active and healthy while at home.

The half-termly rate will be as follows:

30 minute classes – 2500 KES
45 minute classes – 3000 KES
60 minute classes – 3500 KES
75 minute classes – 3750 KES
90 minute classes – 4000 KES

Capped Fees will be reduced to 17,500 KES, which means that once your total bill reaches 17,500 you can take unlimited classes. As we are giving such a significant overall discount and to simplify bookkeeping, we will be suspending all sibling discounts for the time being.

Important info on the rates:

**These rates cover one class per week. It is possible to take multiple of the same classes every week, but they will be charged separately. You will only be able to sign up for a particular day. Only in terms of make-up class will you be given passwords to enter classes on other days.

**We will not be holding classes with less than five sign ups. Students who have already paid for a class which does not have enough students will be refunded the fees paid for that particular class or can be credited for another class if they prefer this.

Registration

To register for the classes of your choice you simply fill out this Google form:

<https://forms.gle/oxwngBa9U3Mwc57x9>

Please register latest Sunday 19th April to be able to start the term on time on Monday 20th of April.

All payments will be due by 12 noon on the 4th of May. Kindly send pictures of all transactions/confirmation messages to our administrator Muna at 0796370937. If you can pay as you register it will be incredibly helpful to our team and you can immediately enter your payment details into the form.

Kindly note that we will only be accepting Mpesa payments and Bank Transfers:

Mpesa: Pay bill number 542647 with your child’s name as the account number

Bank transfers: The Dance Centre Ltd. I&M Bank, Karen Branch, Acc. No. 00801048881210, Sort Code: 570086

Within 24 hours of registering, you will receive passwords for entering “classrooms”. On May 4th all passwords will change and only those who have paid fees will be able to enter. Due to DCK being forced to downsize our administrative staff significantly, no partial payments or late payments will be possible. We are all very sorry for this inconvenience, but simply put, we just don’t have the manpower to handle complicated finances this term. Additionally, class sizes will be limited so that the teachers are still able to give good feedback while the kids are dancing, so **please sign up as soon as possible to ensure space.**

At the end of this 5-week program there will be a half term break from May 24th – May 31st. We will assess the second half of term in about a month’s time and let you know how we will proceed.

Zoom

We will be holding all classes through the program Zoom. We recognize that there have been some security issues surrounding this software and we will be monitoring it actively. In every zoom class there will be an administrator co-hosting with the teacher, so if there are any technical errors or someone is coming to class late, etc. it will be the administrator handling the difficulties, which frees up the teacher to focus on teaching. Additionally, the teachers will basically teach from one meeting with back-to-back classes and the children will come and go from the “classroom”. We feel that this will make a smoother transition between classes and allow the students to even come in a few minutes early and watch the class before them finish up. As an additional security measure, we will be using “waiting rooms”, so that every student has to be admitted in by either a teacher or administrator. This should keep non-students out of the meetings.

RAD Exams

Tentatively, the make-up RAD ballet exams have been scheduled for the end of June. It is with this in mind that we will continue to follow the syllabus in the specified ballet classes and work towards this goal. If the exams do not happen, we cannot speculate how this will be handled by the RAD, but we will keep you informed as we hear from them. It is with this in mind, that your child should still be in the same class they were in the January term. Our new school year starts in September.

Dance Wear:

To keep classes as serious and disciplined as possible, we ask that all ballet students wear proper ballet attire (leotards, tights, ballet shoes, etc) and all other dancers wear appropriate clothing for moving. Hair should be pulled back for all classes. Please email dancewearkenya@gmail.com and cc in info@dancecentre.co.ke to make appointments to buy necessary dance wear at either our Lavington or Hardy studios.

We hope, in addition to your kids keeping up with the classes they have already been participating in, they will branch out and try new ones! Like so many small businesses around the world, DCK is fighting to survive right now, and it’s not going to be able to survive without the support of its dancers and parents. So please, please sign up to keep taking classes. As mentioned, we will keep class sizes small so that our teachers can give good feedback while the kids are dancing. We have made the classes cheaper, bringing tuition rates down by 40%. For kids stuck at home, the classes promise a chance to keep fit, improve their dancing and meet with their peers online. We just ask that you please register and pay in full before the term starts, so that we can ensure that teachers get paid at the end of this month. Let’s all continue to work together to make this time as positive as possible.

For any questions, please reach out to us through info@dancecentre.co.ke or call 0796370937.

Warmest regards,

Cooper, Caroline and the DCK Family