

# **2024 STUDENT HANDBOOK**

# Take your Dancing to the **NEXT LEVEL**

#### **About Us**

Next Level Performing Arts specialises in performance and technical excellence for boys and girls from three years to adults.

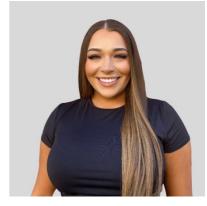
Whether it be fun, fitness, performance, competition or career opportunities, students of Next Level Performing Arts are taught co-ordination, rhythm and self-confidence. Students will have a wonderful and rewarding time with us.

Our students are taught by our diverse range of highly skilled, qualified and experienced teachers who have outstanding professional careers, very high standards and are well respected in the industry. They are trained industry professionals, having their finger on the pulse, of the latest and current trends and requirements in this field.

# **Our Principal**

Brie Weston is a professionally trained dancer and teacher based in Sydney with skills spanning across jazz, contemporary, lyrical, hip hop, tap, acrobatics, musical theatre, ballet and technical training having completed her Certificate IV in Dance Teaching and Management at the Australian College of Dance.

During her career, Brie has worked professionally since 2011 in a variety of children's and cabaret shows throughout Australia. Brie has won seven National titles at the Showcase National Dance Championships across different genres as well as National Titles in troupe dance including



Hollywood Bound National Dance Championships and ADF (Australian Dance Festival). Brie has found immense success in national Hip Hop Competitions such as Dance Life Unite, Hip Hop International, Australian Hip Hop Championship, Australian Dance Crew Championship and World Supremacy Battlegrounds both as a performer and choreographer. Brie has also been a cast member of a Mo Award winning Best Childrens Show as well as an ACE (Australian Club Entertainment) Award winner.

Brie also regularly works at various National Dance Championship competitions as a Stage Manager, Announcer & Adjudicator.

Brie has now focused herself working as a freelance dance teacher throughout Sydney and has gained a reputation of being a sought after teacher and choreographer for soloists and troupes alike. Brie's creative mind in choreography has won many competitions and several of her students have developed under her guidance to the **NEXT LEVEL**. Having a following of students wanting more Brie felt it was time to settle her toes into her own studio.

Brie is passionate about personal development and growth both in and outside of dance and can't wait to continue sharing, progressing and inspiring future generations.

#### Location

In 2024, Next Level Performing Arts will continue to operate from;

Beaumont Hills Community Centre – Arnold Janssen Dr & The Parkway, Beaumont Hills NSW 2155

No child under the age of 18 is to leave the studio unless someone comes to collect them.

# **Our Faculty**

Brie Weston, Principal of Next Level Performing Arts, leads a team of teachers who are all highly qualified and trained with years of professional experience. Our faculty of teachers are industry renowned dancers and choreographers who brings their abundance of creative knowledge from their experiences to our students. Full Bios can be found of all our teachers on our website.

# **Office Hours**

If you need to contact any of the staff at Next Level Performing Arts or have any inquiries, please send an email. Please refrain from calling the teachers directly or approaching them before, during or after class time as all matters need to go through the principal, Brie Weston. To contact Brie, please send an email or call her mobile only if the matter is urgent. All emails will be read and answered during office hours only. If your child is unable to attend class for any reason, please advise us via email.

The Next Level Performing Arts office hours are Monday to Saturday from 10am – 2 pm.

# **Studio Policy**

Next Level Performing Arts has expected standards as we wish to create a friendly, safe and happy environment to ensure a high standard of tuition and to encourage improvement in all our students.

- Regular attendance is expected to ensure progress and development. Each student is important
  to the whole class and studio. This is particularly important during Terms 3 and 4 when concert
  routines are being choreographed and cleaned. Please notify the office via email or text if an
  absence is going to occur.
- We are unable to take responsibility for our students before or after their scheduled classes as
  many of our classes are conducted back-to-back, and it is the responsibility of the parent to
  ensure their child is picked up and dropped off on time. In the case of an emergency or
  unavoidable delay, please contact Brie immediately on her mobile to inform us of the situation
  so we can keep your child calm and safe until they can be collected.
- The viewing of classes is restricted as it distracts the students from the class. For new students, we ask that the parent introduces their child in their first class making sure they are settled before leaving them to participate with the other students. There is a designated waiting area for parents should you wish to stay on premises.

- Please inform us of any medical conditions that may effect your child. We wish to ensure that our teachers be fully informed in case of an emergency.
- Please advise us of knowledge of any issues which may affect your child's learning. This will enable us to provide a higher level of tuition to meet the individuals' needs of each student.
- Students participate at their own risk
- A student's class level may not always be age specific and may be determined at the teacher's
  discretion. If necessary, the teacher may move a student to a different class that best suits their
  ability.
- Next Level Performing Arts takes no responsibility for any stolen or misplaced property and we encourage our students to avoid bringing valuable items into our premises where possible.
- Next Level Performing Arts reserves the right to change teachers or timetabling when necessary at any time throughout the year.
- Food and chewing gum are not to be consumed during class hours. Students who have a break
  between classes may consume their food in the students waiting area. We encourage that each
  student brings a bottle of water to keep them hydrated during classes.
- No mobile phones are allowed in the classroom due to constant distraction.
- Students must wear the correct shoes for each particular style of class, this is for the student's safety and prevention of injury. If a student does not have shoes for a class they will not be able to participate in class.
- Regular updates and news will be emailed. Please make sure we have the correct email address and that you check this frequently as these may be important.
- All choreography and costuming for eisteddfods, performances, talent quests, and concerts remain the exclusive intellectual property of Next Level Performing Arts.
- For public use of any Next Level Performing Arts images, footage, choreography or routines, permission from the Principal is required.
- Physical, mental, emotional or cyber bullying by parents, staff or students will not be tolerated. In
  the extreme rare case of a parent or student showing disrespect or defamation to any parent, staff
  member or student, dismissal may be considered at the discretion of the Principal.
- Next Level Performing Arts reserve the right to dismiss or take disciplinary action on any students
  or parents who breach any of our studio's policy.

# **Social Media Policy**

Next Level Performing Arts Social Media Policy refers to all social networking sites (including but not limited to Facebook, Instagram, Tik Tok to name a few), video/photo sharing sites, blogs, podcasts, forums, instant messaging etc.

- While affiliated with our studio, (for example, images of your child in uniform) we will not tolerate any posts that are racially, sexually, physically or religiously offensive.
- Any comments or posts perceived to be indecent, defamatory, threatening, harassing, discriminatory or hateful towards Next Level Performing Arts staff, students or families may result in the Principal taking disciplinary or legal action.
- All matters pertaining directly to the studio whether it be fees, scheduling, placements or
  performance opportunities should not be communicated via social media. All communication
  should be directed to the office via email.
- Families found to be engaging in 'hidden' or 'private' groups formed for the specific purpose of discussing studio matters will not be tolerated.
- Should you wish to engage on social media while identifying as a member of our studio, you may
  only do so with righteousness, respect, and adhere to privacy and confidentiality policy.
- Any content revealing or referring to sensitive studio information is not allowed to be shared online.
- Personal photos or videos taken from classes, performances or rehearsals may be posted online only with permission from the Principal.
- Next Level Performing Arts maintain a highly active presence online. We encourage you to like and share our posts.

# Safety

Next Level Performing Arts is very serious about upholding Child Protection laws and policies within the studio as well as at public performances and online. Our teachers all have a current First Aid Certificate and a valid NSW Working With Children's check that is constantly updated with the NSW Office of the Children's Guardian.

The staff at Next Level Performing Arts are educated in the negative impact of inappropriate music and costume selection when it comes to performing dance routines and are wholeheartedly committed to ensuring children in all of our dance routines are not subjected to any inappropriate songs or costuming.

You understand that dance is potentially hazardous to those taking part and students participate at his/her own risk. To the extent permitted by law, you accept that Next Level Performing Arts or the Venue will not be liable for any loss, damage, action, claim, costs or expenses, which may arise in consequence of participation in any event / activity.

By registering your child at Next Level Performing Arts, you have agreed to a media waiver allowing us to proudly use images and video footage of your student for advertising and promotional purposes. Should you have any concerns, please send an email to our office.

The safety of our students is our number one priority.

# **Privacy**

Next Level Performing Arts will only collect your personal information for the purpose of providing services and products to you and to administer and manage accounts. All information obtained is stored securely.

We will never sell or pass on any of your information to third parties unless required by government authorities or in the event of debt recovery. Any information passed on will be done so with appropriate privacy and confidentiality protection.

#### **Enrolment**

Next Level Performing Arts require an annual enrolment payment to secure your spot in the classes of your choice. Our enrolment fees are as follows

1 Student - \$38.50 2 Students - \$71.50 3 Students - \$99.00

Enrolment fee is non refundable.

#### **Fees Policy**

Next Level Performing Arts runs their classes to coincide with the NSW school terms.

As you can appreciate, Next Level Performing Arts have financial obligations payable in advance for venue hire, insurance, licences and administrative fees and our teachers expect to be paid at the end of every class, therefore it is expected that all fees and costume payments are made on time.

All fees are paid per term in advance, are non-refundable, and are to be paid in full by the second week of each term. Please be aware that class teachers are not in a position to discuss your invoice or fees and all queries need to be directed via email through the office. New students may pay casually for the first two weeks of term to ascertain if they wish to continue classes. After this, they will be invoiced the remaining fees for the term. Fees remain payable if your child is absent from class. Additionally, you will not be charged for any lessons that are cancelled due to public holidays or other issues. While no general class are conducted during the school holidays, Ballet exams classes, Workshops/Open classes, Troupe rehearsals, may occur during the break at an additional cost.

Invoices will be issued at the start of each term by email. Payments can be made by cash, credit card or bank transfer. If you are paying by cash, please put your payment in a sealed envelope with your child's name, invoice number and the amount on the front. Please hand any cash payment directly to the Principal.

When making a bank transfer, please quote your invoice number or Surname in the transfer. Once you have made your payment through either cash, or bank deposit, we request that you send an email to the office to confirm that you have made your payment.

Credit Card payments incur a 2.2% processing fee.

Families who do not comply with their fee or costume payment obligations by the due date may be charged a late fee, and/or excluded from classes/performances. Invoices 14 days overdue will incur a late fee of \$15. If fees remain unpaid 30 days past the due date, a further \$50 collection fee will be applied. At this stage students will not be permitted to participate in their lessons until the overdue invoice is paid in full.

If, at anytime, you are experiencing financial hardship, please do not hesitate to contact the Principal via email to organise a payment plan.

Costume expenses are the responsibility of the parent, and costumes will not be issued to students with unpaid class fees.

# **Class Prices & Packages**

Next Level Performing Arts is a registered provider of Active Kids & Creative Kids potentially saving you up to \$300 per student on your fees by using your vouchers with Next Level Performing Arts.

Dance with Me Class

30 min - \$15 per week

**Next Kidz Class** 

1 hour - \$20 per week Ballet Extension \$11 per week

**All Other Classes** 

1 Class - \$16.50 per week

2 Classes - \$31 per week

3 Classes - \$43 per week

4 Classes - \$57 per week

5 Classes - \$71.50 per week

6 classes - \$86 per week

Unlimited Package - \$96 per week\*

\* This does not include Private Lessons

# **Sibling Discount**

Siblings doing more than a combined 6 or more classes per week are entitled to a 10% discount on tuition fees

#### Refer a Friend Discount

Refer a friend to Next Level Performing Arts and you will receive 10% off your tuition fee for the following term. A free trial class is available for your friend to discover how wonderful their experience will be.

#### **Price Match Guarantee**

Simply provide a copy of your current invoice from another dance school and we will price match tuition fees for the next 12 months

# \*\* Only one discount offer can be applied to tuition fees \*\*

#### Cheerleading

Next Level Performing Arts is officially home of the Hills Bulls Cheerleaders. Once the footy season commences, the cheerleading class group performs at every home game of the Ron Massey Hills Bulls team. This is usually around 3pm on alternate Sundays commencing April – June at Crestwood Oval. Performance uniforms and pom poms will incur an additional cost.

# **Troupe & Crew**

Troupe and Crew are by audition or through invitation by the teacher only. All students enrolled in Troupe and/or Crew are required take ballet and acrobatics class and to pay a non refundable enrolment fee of \$110. This fee covers all Troupe/Crew eisteddfod entry fees.

# **Private Lessons**

Private Singing classes are available to all students.

Solos, Duos, Trios are only available to Troupe/Crew students.

All requests must be made in writing via email to the office and are strictly limited. Depending on demand we cannot guarantee all students will be accepted for private lessons.

Private lessons are made up of two components, teachers cost and studio hire. Costs will depend on location and teacher providing the lesson. You will be advised of any cost prior to committing to a private lesson.

There will be no entry into solo esteddfords should any fees be overdue.

All eisteddfod entry fees and costumes will incur an additional cost.

### **Uniform, Shoes & Grooming**

Every student represents Next Level Performing Arts in both classes and out of class. It is compulsory that every student wears full dance attire uniform to every lesson. All new students do not have to wear our

studio uniform for their trial, however, must purchase the uniform by their fourth week of attendance. Until then, we recommend wearing studio colours.

We take pride in our appearance. All students need to come to class with their hair pulled back completely off their face.

For most classes such as Jazz, Tap, Lyrical, Acrobatics, Technique, Cheerleading and Troupe, the uniform remains the same. Students are required to wear any style Next Level PA Top with any style black bottoms. Ballet students must come to each class in full ballet attire and must be groomed neatly. The uniform consists of black leotard, pink ballet stockings, black crossover (optional). If students are not correctly attired, they cannot be properly corrected and therefore are missing out on learning technical fundamentals through corrections.

Correct shoes are a must in order to prevent injury.

- Ballet ballet shoes or pointe shoes (exam students only)
- Jazz/Technique/Troupe Black jazz shoes. We do not permit students to dance in Jazz boots or socks due to safety reasons.
- Tap Black buckle up or lace up tap shoes
- Lyrical/Contemporary foot thongs
- Acrobatics no footwear
- Cheerleading completely white sports shoe
- **Hip Hop** may wear any footwear as long as it is flat soled, comfortable and appropriate to dance in.

Please note that troupe students may be required to have both tan and black jazz shoes depending on the costume chosen.

We encourage our students, especially during the winter months to keep warm after their lessons. As part of their uniform, students may purchase a Next Level Performing Arts hoodie to be worn before and after their classes.

Furthermore, Next Level Performing Arts jackets & trackpants are compulsory for all troupe students and must be worn to every competition. This makes our team unified and professional looking as you are representing the Next Level Performing Arts brand.

# Costumes

Students will require costumes for eisteddfods and performances during the year (if your child is involved in a Troupe or Crew routines) as well as for the end of your concert. Costumes will either be hired or brought brand new. Please keep in mind that you may be required to purchase brand new costumes for all classes. Next Level Performing Arts makes a conscious effort made to keep costs to a minimum for families.

Students will be invoiced \$10 per class per term as a non-refundable Costume Levy. Any additional costume cost will be invoiced Term 4.

#### **Annual Concert**

Each year Next Level Performing Arts showcases a professional and highly entertaining concert, displaying all class routines. In order to produce a professional concert, a lot of time and effort is put in by our teachers and faculty, whereby, students need to put in the same effort and commitment. A compulsory dress rehearsal is held prior to the concert as well as a stage rehearsal on the day of the actual concert. These rehearsals are all compulsory as they ensure that all routines are up to scratch. You will be informed of the dates and times of these rehearsals and the concert as soon as they are finalized.

Families will be invoiced a \$70 Concert fee in Term 4 which covers cost of additional music license, dress rehearsal fee & video (per family)

# **Annual Photo Day**

Each year as part of our annual Dress Rehearsal Day, Next Level Performing Arts will take class group and individual photos of all students. These photos may be used as part of our marketing. The photos will be available to purchase at an additional cost.

#### **Awards**

We encourage students of all abilities to try their best in every class as their efforts will be recognized and rewarded. At the end of the year, every student receives a trophy and trophies will be awarded throughout the classes.

All perpetual trophies are awarded at the annual end of year concert.

Michelle Smith – Performance Award

Michelle Smith is one of Brie's role models, mentor, a great friend and is a huge supporter of Brie as a Studio Owner. This award is presented by Michelle (or representative of her) for their outstanding performance at the concert.

Davin GJ Award

This award is very important to Brie as it is dedicated to her most influential dance teacher Davin Griffith-Jones. Davin has been such a role model to Brie growing up as a dancer, and has helped shape her passion and love that she has for performing and being a teacher. He is a great leader and remains such a positive influence in her life.

This award is given to a student that has shows leadership and passion for dance and performing. The student will have displayed a positive attitude from the moment they walk into the studio.

Student of the Year

This award goes to a student who exemplifies Next Level Performing Arts morals and values, not necessarily the "best" dancer. A student who has attended classes all year and someone who is friendly to all students, and all teachers think have worked hard and improved in class.

# **Account Details**

**Next Level Performing Arts** 

BSB: 112-879

Account Number: 443 296 883

# **Contact information**

**Telephone** – 0478 171517

Email – nextlevelpa@outlook.com

Website - next level pa.com. au

Facebook - @nextlevelbeaumonthills

Instagram – nextlevel.pa



All advertised pricing includes GST