

Toowoomba BALLET COLLEGE

2025 PROSPECTUS



Elite Training

WITH A DIFFERENCE



Toowoomba Ballet College is not a dance studio.

The first regional dance program of its kind, “The College” offers elite dance training which balances the traditions of the Art Form that is classical ballet, while embracing the modern world and up to date teaching techniques.

The College has been mindfully developed for regional dancers to access quality classical training, in a format which allows them **continue attending high school** in person, to ensure their social developmental milestones are met.

College students do NOT compete at group eisteddfods or competitions, and **dancers are supported to continue dancing and competing with their home studio.**



Developing intelligent dancers and future thinkers at a mindful pace.

Dancers are encouraged to slowly increase their training intensity at a safe and sustainable pace, with a focus on development towards their personal goals.



Carefully paced training to support dancers during their most formative years.



Dancers attending full-time training too young can often do more harm than good. At The College the training is paced for dancers to peak at the age when they are mature enough to embark on a professional career in dance.

The gradual increase of training intensity is carefully mapped out to be age appropriate, and to ensure dancers are able to keep up with their academic and studio commitments. This pacing is in place to reduce injury rates and emotional stress caused by taking on full time training before the dancer is physically and emotionally ready.

The careful progression has been defined into four 'phases' which allow the dancers time to explore, learn and develop at a gentle and achievable pace.



A Balanced Approach

At The College, students are guided through a learning environment which balances consistency for technique development and varied 'specialist' classes which keep them engaged and inspired in their progressions.

Consistency is key in laying proper foundations for classical technique, so core classes including **Classical Technique, Body Conditioning, and Pointe** are taken each session.

Specialist Classes vary each week to keep dancers inspired and engaged throughout the program; and cover range of topics appropriate to each phase:



- Contemporary Dance
- Choreography
- Pas de deux and Partnering
- Repertoire (Variations)
- Repertoire (Corps de Ballet)
- Performance & Rehearsals
- Dance Anatomy and Theory
- Dance History
- Classical Ballet Terminology
- Goal Setting & Career Planning
- The Art of Teaching Dance

Performance Opportunities



College students in all levels gain invaluable industry experience and artistic development, performing in two full-scale Toowoomba Ballet Theatre productions at the Empire Theatre each year, as well as a College exclusive 'Showcase' at the Empire Theatre at the end of each year.





Competitions ✨

College dancers DO NOT attend group eisteddfods, as training is not competition focused, and dancers are instead encouraged to remain loyal to their home studio eisteddfod programs.

Dancers may choose to pursue solos at eisteddfods, guided by either their home studio or the College (only with the express permission of their home studio).

✦ Mindful Class Sizes

The College's boutique style training offers strict class size limits to ensure quality of training and ability to build connection and focus on each individual's development with the dancers.

Levels may at times combine for certain classes such as Body Conditioning and Performance Rehearsal. This balance of small focus classes and combined settings allow for individual attention while also feeling part of a like-minded community.





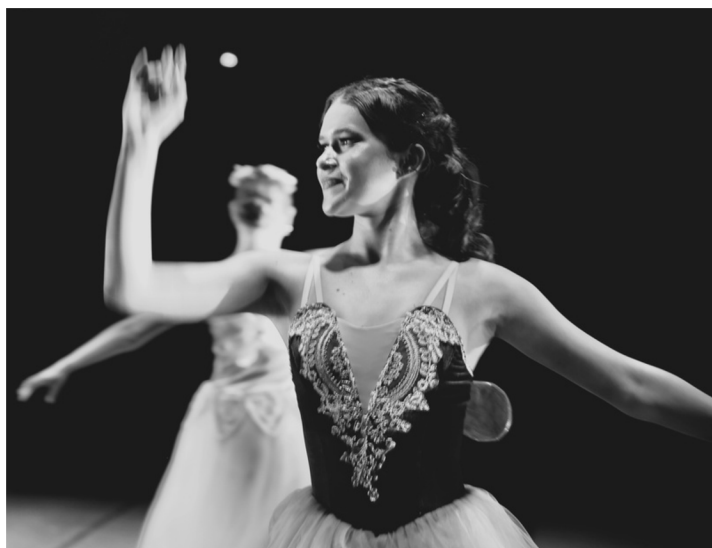
Classical Examinations ✦

College students partake in **Ballet Conservatoire (Vaganova)** examinations to extend their training and development. The Vaganova method devised by Christine Walsh is the most industry relevant syllabus. Examinations are strongly encouraged as they are incredibly beneficial in ensuring appropriate progressions and technical development.



Why Vaganova?

The College is committed to offering the most Industry relevant and up-to-date training available for dancers. After exploring the multitude of syllabus offerings in Australia, from RAD to CSTD it was clear that The Ballet Conservatoire Syllabus developed by Christine Walsh is the most industry relevant syllabus available to dancers in Australia, with a strong focus on technique and performance quality in the Russian Vaganova style.



Qualifications

Using dance to *support* your high school education.

Dancers may opt to 'add on' a qualification to their College experience.

The following qualifications are valuable in enhancing the dancers' learning experience, gain QCE credits towards their high school certificate, and kickstart their career in the industry.

Below is an overview of the offerings delivered in partnership with Empowerdance RTO 40397.

CUA20120 Certificate II in Dance
CUA30120 Certificate III in Dance
CUA30320 Certificate III in Assistant Dance Teaching
CUA40120 Certificate IV in Dance
CUA51520 Diploma of Professional Dance (Elite Performance)

IN PARTNERSHIP WITH
Empowerdance
PTY LTD
RTO: 40397

★ College Pathways

AT A GLANCE

Level 1

Foundations Phase

(Grade 5 & 6 at School)

Once Weekly (Saturdays)

Classical
Pointe Foundations & Repertoire
Body Conditioning
Specialist Class

Level 2

Development Phase

(Grade 7 & 8 at School)

Once Weekly (Saturdays)

Classical
Pointe & Repertoire
Body Conditioning
Specialist Class

CUA20120 Certificate II in Dance

Level 3

Progressions Phase

(Grade 9 & 10 at School)

Once or Twice Weekly
(Fridays & Saturdays)

Classical
Pointe & Repertoire
Body Conditioning
Specialist Class

CUA30120 Certificate III in Dance

CUA30320 Certificate III in Assistant Dance Teaching

Level 4

Extension Phase

(Grade 11 & beyond)

Once or Twice Weekly
(Fridays & Saturdays)

Classical
Pointe & Repertoire
Body Conditioning
Specialist Class

CUA40120 Certificate IV in Dance

CUA51520 Diploma of Professional Dance (Elite Performance)

Levels are defined by School Grades to ensure that the training aligns with their high school education, however each dancer is assessed individually by the Director to ensure correct placement. Dancers would choose VET courses based on their personal goals and pathways.

Families can choose the appropriate training frequency to suit their schedules and the dancer's personal development.

The pathways at a glance are a suggested timeframe only and can be tailored to suit the dancer at the discretion of the Director. In select cases dancers may commence in Level 1 whilst in Grade 4 at school. This is strictly at the discretion of the Director.

Schedule

Paced to enable dancers to remain at school and continue dancing with their home studios as much as possible.

The schedule is exemplary only and will vary as enrolments are finalised each year.

Dancers pursuing VET qualifications will require permission from their high school to attend Friday classes.

The college operates on a 9 week term, incorporating a '**Rest Week**' for the dancers each Term.

These rest weeks will be scheduled around major events (eg. Toowoomba Eisteddfod) to enable dancers to attend their home studio events, or to catch up on academics and other commitments. This rest week is vital for the dancers to train at a sustainable pace.

<u>FRIDAYS</u>	<u>SATURDAYS</u>
9:00 – 4:00 (<i>Level 3 & 4</i>) Classical Pointe & Repertoire Body Conditioning Specialist Class Classical VET Study	9:00 – 1:00 (<i>Level 1 & 2</i>) Level 1 Classical Pointe Foundations Pointe & Repertoire Body Conditioning Specialist Class Level 2 Classical Level 2 VET Study
	1:00 – 6:00 (<i>Level 3 & 4</i>) Level 3 Classical Body Conditioning Pointe & Repertoire Specialist Class Level 4 Classical

College Uniform



Upon Enrolment, all College dancers will have the following uniform requirements for classes and events;

- *Black or Slate College Leotard (worn for all classes)
- *Black or Slate Short Wrap Skirt (worn for Classical & Pointe Classes)
- *Black Long Skirt (worn for Specialist Classes, Repertoire and Rehearsals)
- *Black Half Tutu (worn for Specialist Classes, Repertoire and Rehearsals)
- *College Pants (worn for Body Conditioning and Specialist classes)
- *College Jacket (worn to College classes and events)
- Hair must always be in a neat classical upstyle.
- No ponytails or excessive jewellery
- Own pink tights, ballet flats and pointe shoes for classes
- Knee pads and *Black contemporary socks will also be required at times
- Plain Black shorts, tights, crossovers and pale pink leg warmers may be worn in appropriate classes and climates.

*Indicates compulsory items provided upon enrolment.



*Level 1/2 Leotard



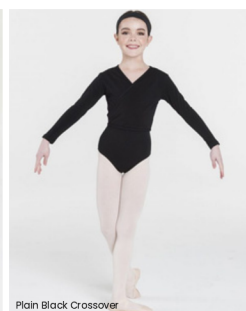
*Level 1/2 Short Wrap Skirt



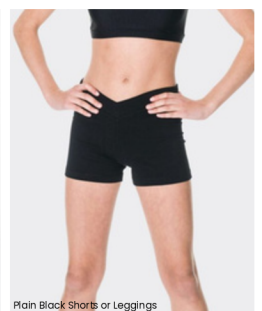
*Long Skirt



*Half Tutu



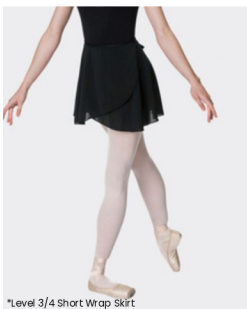
Plain Black Crossover



Plain Black Shorts or Leggings



*Level 3/4 Leotard



*Level 3/4 Short Wrap Skirt



*College Jacket



*College Pants



Pink Leg Warmers



Black Contemporary Socks

College Entry

Entry to the College is strictly by Audition.

Toowoomba Ballet College offers Elite training without the Elitist Approach. Dancers are not assessed for their physical suitability (ie. requirement for the 'ballerina physique'), rather their willingness to learn and thrive in the environment of the College.

Many future pathways can open from the college and this is taken into consideration during the audition process.

Submission of most recent Schooling Academic Reports are also required at this stage to ensure dancers are not impacting their education by taking on too many hours of dance in their schedules.

In the preliminary stage, dancers submit their aspirations and background, along with their academic reports, any dance exam reports, and a simple video submission.

Video Submission Information

The video submission should be no more than 5 minutes and should demonstrate the dancer's current abilities. The video may contain any combination of the following;

- Barre work
- Centre Work
- Pointe Work
- Contemporary, Jazz or Lyrical Work
- Own Choreography
- Exam or Eisteddfod Content
- Any other special skills which highlight the dancer or portrays their individuality.

Following the video submission, the Director will arrange a meeting with the dancer and family to view the space and discuss their personal pathways in the college.

Applications for the 2025 intake are now open.



Connect

college@toowoombaballettheatre.com.au

Toowoomba Ballet College programs are conducted at
9 Railway Street, Toowoomba City