



DANCESTEP
2026

ABOUT THE PROGRAM

DanceStep is a Student Teacher Education Program providing formalised practical and theoretical training for assistant dance instruction. It is a program only available to current Caper students (minimum age Year 8) who meet the following requirements:

- Enrolment in ballet, tap and jazz classes
- Participation in tap or ballet exams

The DanceStep program works to:

- Empower students to take care of others,
- Guide students to be leaders and role models,
- Cover assistant teaching skills (for example, behaviour management, different learning needs and styles and anatomy),
- Strengthen team work skills and enhance community.

The DanceStep program takes a progressive and formalised process to grow leaders and enrich the experience of senior students within the studio. Whether considering employment or a career in dance teaching or otherwise, is a great preparation for many aspects of life.

PRACTICAL EXPERIENCE CLASSES

Each DanceStep representative has the opportunity to gain weekly practical experience in assistant dance instruction.

When attending the practical experience classes, DanceStep Representatives are expected to wear the DanceStep T-shirt with black tights/shorts. Shoes should match the dance style of the class. The top can also be worn with a black leotard and ballet wrap skirt if assisting with ballet classes. Hair should be neat and tidy and pulled back off the face.

Absences from any practical experience classes are to be emailed to caper@caperonline.com.au

CODE OF CONDUCT

DanceStep representatives should:

- Be a positive role model for younger students.
- Show kindness and respect to their peers/fellow students. Ways this can be shown includes; ensuring conduct in class does not distract others from learning, being inclusive and encouraging the success of others.
- Be a team player.
- Show respect and being cooperative with other Caper teachers.
- Treat studio property with respect.
- Follow studio rules.

CHILD SAFETY

DanceStep Representatives are not permitted to enforce discipline or set behavioural boundaries. All dance instruction must not involve direct physical contact with students. Age-appropriate language and content/themes must be used at all times.

In the role of assistant dance teaching, DanceStep Representatives will have interaction with a number of children not known to them outside of this role. To protect the privacy of these children, DanceStep Representatives must not take photos or videos of them, or share/post their image online or electronically (photos/posting of peers/classmates is not included). Any personal details of the children must be kept confidential.

WORKSHOPS

The following workshops for the year are:

- Wednesday 8 April, 4:30pm – 6:00pm
- Wednesday 8 July, 4:30pm – 6:00pm
- Wednesday 30 September, 4:30pm – 6:00pm

The uniform is required to be worn at all workshops.

For each workshop, DanceStep Representatives are not to complete theory at home unless asked. All materials on the online learning portal need to be downloaded before attending. DanceSTEP Representatives are to bring a laptop to complete the theory during the workshop session.

CONCERT

DanceStep students are welcome to instruct with their class at the Annual Concert (not compulsory). Closer to the concert email caper@caperonline.com.au to confirm participation and inclusion in attendance rolls and costume change considerations.

We love seeing our students grow and evolve in their love for dance as DanceStep Representatives. To maximise your experience, we recommend taking every opportunity to involve yourself, show initiative and confidence. We have so many lovely little personalities in our younger dance classes and we are so pleased that they have our DanceStep Representatives to admire.

Kate & Beth