

Tuesday 7 April 2020

Dear CAT Student, Parents and Guardians,

**Re: Important Dance City CAT Information and Update**

I hope you are well and that you are staying as calm and relaxed as possible, during these strange times.

I wanted to keep you updated on how things are progressing with CAT provision as we are awaiting decisions from Dance City Management regarding a definite return date. I can, however, confirm that we won't be returning on Monday 20 April, as originally hoped. Currently we are looking at a possible return date of Monday 8 June as this would allow us to have 6 weeks of training, plus the Intensive week, to end the year as planned, but, as with everything at the moment, this is subject to change. We will continue to work with our colleagues at the Department for Education and the National CAT Centres to make any further decisions and if we are able to get back any sooner than Monday 8 June, we will try to offer some optional classes for students who wish to attend. We will keep you fully informed as and when we know more.

We have received a few requests from students for online classes and, whilst this is something we would like to be able to support, it is logistically difficult to coordinate due to the closure of Dance City, issues relating to health and safety, and a number of other extenuating factors. We will keep exploring ideas and let you know how things progress.

Over the coming weeks we will try to find existing online classes that we can recommend but we will obviously approach this cautiously, and we expect students to be selective and use their initiative when using online resources. For the moment, here is a link to Sadler's Wells' Digital Stage which is a great resource for watching dance and keeping yourself inspired.

<https://www.sadlerswells.com/whats-on/2020/digital-stage/>

The stretching and strengthening exercises that you have been sent are a good place to start with keeping yourself in condition and you should continue to use these as a good resource to staying strong and flexible over this period.

We are aware that this is a very difficult and frustrating time for everyone, and that the changes to our daily routines and lives can be hard to cope with. Isolation and loneliness are perhaps the most common issues at this particular time, and social distancing is difficult for many individuals and can really impact on people's health and wellbeing. With this in mind, I would like to think that we, as part of a strong and united CAT community, are all looking out for each other during these strange times, and that we are all reaching out to fellow students to support each other in the caring and sensitive way that defines CAT students.

Not only do we expect students to be kind to each other, we also expect them to abide by the code of conduct in the Student Handbook, below:

*Students must always make sure that they are respectful and supportive of each other when communicating with fellow students through social networking sites. Any hurtful or derogatory comments or actions towards students or staff will be considered cyber-bullying and taken very seriously by the Head of the CAT. Any student who is participating in cyber-bullying will be considered in breach of the CAT's Code of Conduct and further action will be taken.'*

On behalf of all of the CAT team, I would like to thank you for your continued commitment. We are all missing seeing you and are really looking forward to getting back together in the studio and doing what we love.

Best wishes,



Neville Campbell

Head of the Dance City CAT  
[neville.campbell@dancecity.co.uk](mailto:neville.campbell@dancecity.co.uk)