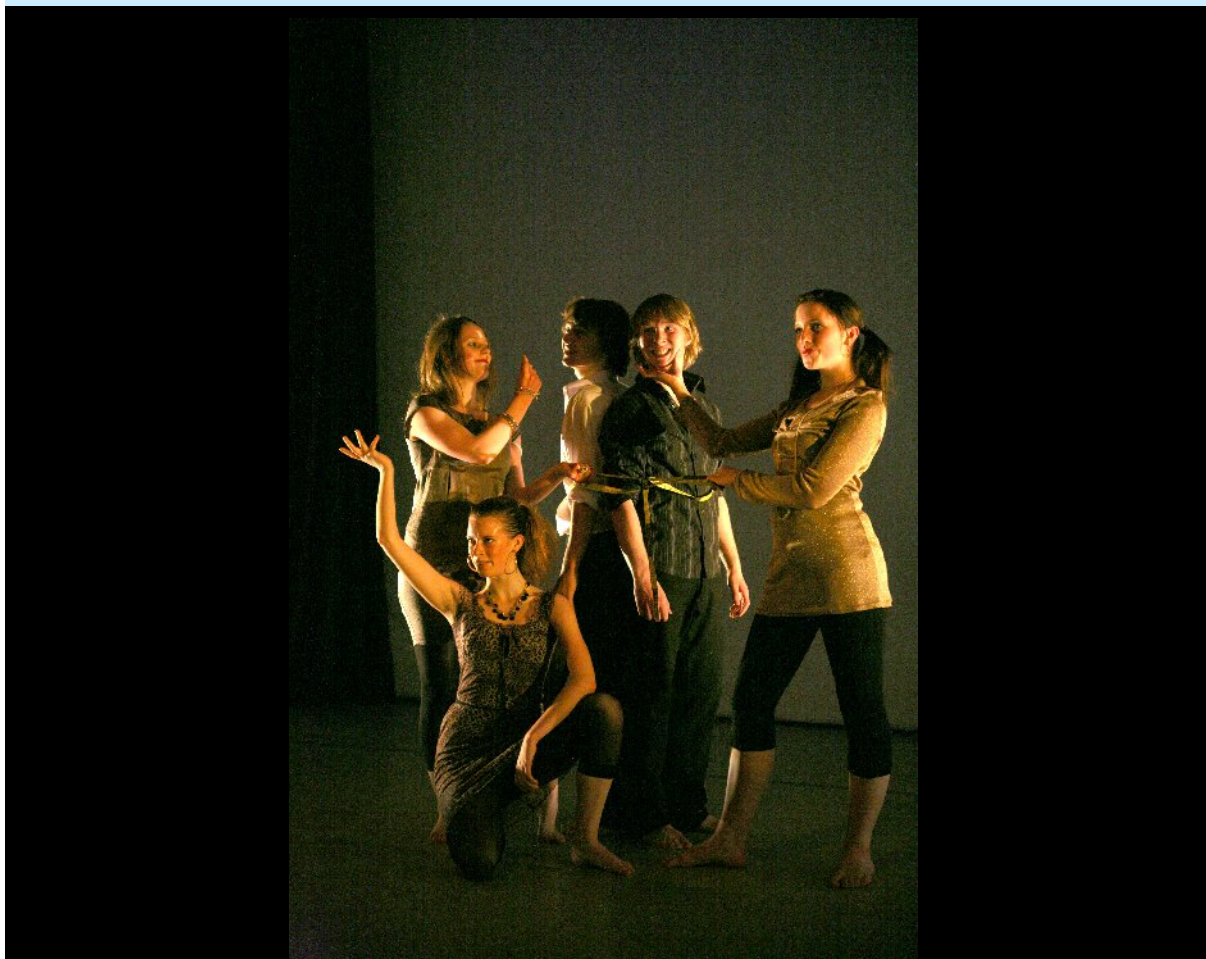


INFORMATION PACK



PHILOSOPHY & EDUCATIONAL AIMS
THE YOUTH DANCE ACADEMY - the programmes
SELECTION CRITERIA
DCSF GRANT CRITERIA
APPLICATION FORM

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All photos by Mark Pepperall

past students have gone onto further full-time training at top vocational colleges and dance conservatoires, such as:

- the Rambert School
- London School of Contemporary Dance
- Central Ballet
- Northern Ballet
- Northern Contemporary Dance School
- Laban
- Millennium
- SPL
- Laines
- Bird College
- Theatre of Motion



INTRODUCTION

The Youth Dance Academy (YDA) is one of only six Centres for Advanced Training (CAT) in the UK and covers the south west of the country.

It is supported by the Department for Children, Schools & Families (DCSF) 'Music & Dance Scheme'.

The YDA provides access to top quality dance training and coaching with experienced professional dance artists of the highest calibre.

The academy aims is to develop tomorrow's outstanding professional dancers and unique dance artists.

Now approaching its fifth successful year, past students have gone to further full-time training at top vocational colleges and dance conservatoires such as:

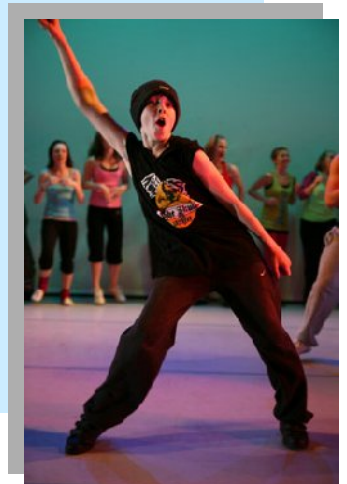
- The Rambert School of Ballet and Contemporary Dance,
- Central Ballet,
- Northern Ballet,
- Northern Contemporary Dance School,
- The London School of Contemporary Dance (The Place),
- Laban,
- Millennium Dance 2000 Theatre School,
- SPL (performing arts college),
- Bird College (performing arts),
- Laines Theatre Arts,
- Theatre of Motion (Level 3 foundation course 16+) based in Swindon.

From September 2009 the YDA will be running three programmes:

The YDA—Swindon
The YDA—Exeter
The YDA—Urban

The YDA is:

- A CENTRE FOR ADVANCED TRAINING FOR THE SOUTH WEST
- BASED IN SWINDON & EXETER
- SUPPORTED BY THE DCSF MUSIC & DANCE SCHEME
- FOR 11-17 YR OLDS
- FOR DANCERS WITH EXCEPTIONAL TALENT



PHILOSOPHY & EDUCATIONAL AIMS OF THE PROGRAMME

AIMS

- To seek out, nurture and develop exceptional talent for dance;
- To provide access, supporting participants both geographically and financially through the DCSF bursary scheme;
- To develop tomorrow's outstanding professional dancers and unique dance artists.

OUTCOMES:

The outcome of the Programme will be:

- the development of autonomous learners;
- the development of artistically and physically dynamic dancers;

UNDERPINNING PRINCIPLES AND ETHOS

Guiding principles for the Programme include:

- a holistic approach to the training and development of tomorrow's outstanding dancers;
- fostering of artistry and creativity in the developmental process;
- creating a safe environment where learners can grow and take risks;
- programmes of study tailored to individual needs;
- working on learners cooperating rather than competing with peers;
- encouraging learners to appreciate each other's work and to recognise the benefit of working with peers who are also talented and dedicated;
- staff who will be mentors actively involved in the whole development of the dancer, rather than simply teaching a dance discipline;
- staff who will be professional role models for the learners, setting an example to which they can aspire;
- potential will be fully developed and not limited by preconceived goals or targets externally imposed;
- learners will be aware of the opportunities available to enable them to achieve excellence.

'CREATE AN ENVIRONMENT WHICH ENABLES FREEDOM OF EXPRESSION OF IDEAS AND ARTISTIC RISK TAKING'



MANAGEMENT OF INDIVIDUAL NEEDS

In order to ensure that individual needs are met the following strategies will be adopted:

- each learner will have an Individual Training Plan where s/he will, in collaboration with their mentor and supported by their parents/carers, set learning targets in a variety of areas of learning which will include physical, artistic and cognitive development;
- the targets will be monitored through individual sessions with their mentor;
- the ITP will provide a detailed record of achievement;
- the Programme will include workshops and taught sessions where a variety of generic skills will be developed which are important to every developing artist. These include creativity, imaginative and interpretive skills, appreciation and evaluative thinking;
- While there will be a programme of dance training essential to the safe development of technical skills required for all dance performers, individual specialisms will be fostered where a dancer exhibits a very particular gift in a specific genre.

'INDIVIDUAL TRAINING PLANS WILL PROVIDE A DETAILED RECORD OF ACHIEVEMENT'

INDIVIDUAL TRAINING PLANS

Each academy member will have an Individual training plan (ITP), which will be drawn up and agreed by the student, parents/carers and the YDA team.

The ITP will set out the programme of training, study, work and related activities that each participant will undertake.

These will be reviewed and evaluated in order to help the participants achieve their best.



THE YOUTH DANCE ACADEMY (YDA)

The YDA runs three programmes in the South West;

- Swindon programme
- Urban programme
- Exeter programme

TERMLY AIMS – ALL YDA PROGRAMMES:

The YDA works to develop three principal 'interlinking' dance skills;

- Technical skills;
- Creative skills;
- Performance skills;

Aims for the Autumn Sessions 2009

The Programme will provide a supportive, creative and dynamic learning environment in order to:

- promote cooperation and team building;
- awaken artistic intelligence and understanding;
- begin the process of performance profiling and goal setting;
- develop basic dance skills;
- set standards of behaviour and etiquette;

Content

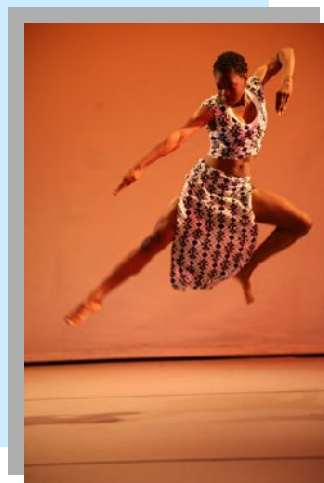
- Basic technical skills in various dance genres appropriate to each YDA programme
- Basic choreographic & creative skills
- Mentoring and tutorials

At the end of the Autumn sessions there will be an open day.

THE YOUTH DANCE ACADEMY

There are 3 programmes to the YDA;

- Swindon programme
- Exeter programme
- Urban programme



[Aims for the Spring Sessions 2010](#)

During phase 2 the programme aims to:

- continue to develop basic technical skills;
- build on previous creative work to encourage effective group interactions;
- begin to facilitate a process of analytical and evaluative thinking;
- create an environment which enables freedom of expression of ideas and artistic risk taking;
- develop awareness of safe dance practice

Content

- Further technical training
- Further choreographic & creative dance skills training
- Taster sessions with guest professional dancers/teachers in a variety of genres
- Input from the Healthier Dancer programme
- Mentoring and tutorials

At the end of the Spring sessions there will be an open day.

[Aims for the Summer Sessions 2010](#)

Phase 3 is the performance phase of the programme and aims to:

- Practical use of acquired skills in a performance project;
- develop performance related skills;
- gain experience of areas which relate to the production of a dance performance including sound, lighting and other technologies;
- encourage autonomy and responsibility for own contribution during the process of creating and performing.

Content

- Further Technical, Creative & Performance Training
- Choreographic/performance and individual projects
- Preparation and rehearsal
- End of year performances
- Mentoring and tutorials in preparation for end of year assessment

The YDA provides a supportive, creative and dynamic learning environment

PHASE 1, autumn:
technical phase

PHASE 2, spring:
Creative phase

PHASE 3, summer:
performance phase



INTENSIVES

Apart from the regular programme delivery there will be some holiday intensives during the October, December (auditioning students), February, Easter and May breaks plus summer school during summer break.

These intensive sessions aim to:

- promote the further development of skills required for the professional dance world;
- give the opportunity to work with professional practitioners working at the highest levels of the dance profession;
- offer further opportunities to be involved in performance related projects;
- increase understanding, through practical experience, of the requirements of a career in the professional dance world.

PERFORMANCE OPPORTUNITIES & SPECIAL EVENTS

There will be a number of performance opportunities, special bonus events as well as summer projects for YDA students throughout the year

Past special events have included:

Workshops with:
Hofesh Dance Co
BareBones
Tavaziva Dance Co
Walker Dance
Bea Dance Theatre
Tim Noble
Rannel Theatre Co

Royal Ballet residency.

Curtain raiser performance with Henri Ogueki Dance Co, Bath.

Performing at Sadler's wells, London—
chorography by Henri Ogueki, music composed by Keith Tippett and performed by students of the South West Music School (CAT) & the YDA (CAT).

Performance trips to London's west End to see; Fame, Swan Lake, Rambert, Nutcracker.



THE YOUTH DANCE ACADEMY—Swindon

The YDA-Swindon is based at Swindon Dance and runs on Saturday afternoons between 12.30 and 5.30p.m. and follows a 6 term format each of 5 weeks, with intensive courses during October 2009, December 2009 (auditioning students only), February, April and May 2010.

The
Youth Dance
Academy -
SWINDON

N.B. DATES MAYBE SUBJECT TO CHANGE

Induction weekend:

Saturday 12th & Sunday 13th Sept 2009

Term dates:

Autumn 2009:

Term1: Saturdays 19th Sept – 17th Oct 2009
Autumn intensive: Mon 26th Tues 27th & Wed 28th Oct 2009
Term 2: Saturdays 14th Nov – 12th Dec 2009

Coaching course—auditioning students only:

Mon 28th Tues 29th Wed 30th & Thurs 31st
Dec 2009

Spring 2010:

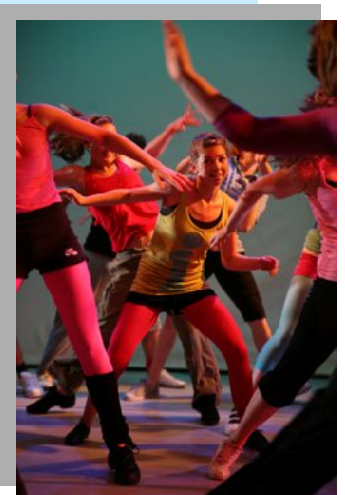
Term 3: Saturdays 9th Jan – 6th Feb 2010
Spring intensive #1: Mon 15th Tues 16th Wed 17th & Thurs 18th
Feb 2010
Term 4: Saturdays 27th Feb – 27th Mar 2010
Spring intensive #2: Mon 5th Tues 6th Wed 7th & Thurs 8th April '10

Summer 2010:

Term 5: Saturdays 24th April – 22nd May 2010
Summer intensive: Mon 31st May, Tues 1st Wed 2nd & Thurs 3rd
June 2010
Term 6: Saturdays 9th June – 7th July 2007

Performance dates:

'DanceHouse' June 2010 - TBC
YDA tech & dress Saturday 10th July 2010
YDA show Sunday 11th July 2010 afternoon &
evening
YDA VIP show Monday 12th July 2010
The Place, London 31st July OR 7th Aug 2010 - TBC



THE YOUTH DANCE ACADEMY—Urban

The YDA-Urban is based at Swindon Dance and runs on Sundays between 11.00 and 4.30p.m. and follows a 6 term format each of 5 weeks, with intensive courses during October 2009, December 2009 (auditioning students only), February, April and May 2010.

N.B. DATES MAYBE SUBJECT TO CHANGE

Induction weekend:

Saturday 12th & Sunday 13th Sept 2009

Term dates:

Autumn 2009:

Term1: Sundays 20th Sept – 18th Oct 2009
Autumn intensive: Mon 26th Tues 27th & Wed 28th Oct 2009
Term 2: Sundays 15th Nov – 13th Dec 2009

Coaching course—auditioning students only:

Mon 28th Tues 29th Wed 30th & Thurs 31st
Dec 2009

Spring 2010:

Term 3: Sundays 10th Jan – 7th Feb 2010
Spring intensive #1: Mon 15th Tues 16th Wed 17th & Thurs 18th
Feb 2010
Term 4: Sundays 28th Feb – 28th Mar 2010
Spring intensive #2: Mon 5th Tues 6th Wed 7th & Thurs 8th April '10

Summer 2010:

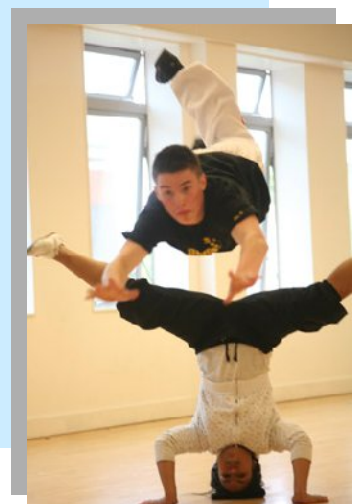
Term 5: Sundays 25th April – 23rd May 2010
Summer intensive: Mon 31st May, Tues 1st Wed 2nd & Thurs 3rd
June 2010
Term 6: Sundays 10th June – 8th July 2010

Performance dates:

'DanceHouse' June 2010 - TBC
YDA tech & dress Saturday 10th July 2010
YDA show Sunday 11th July 2010 afternoon &
evening
YDA VIP show Monday 12th July 2010
The Place, London 31st July OR 7th Aug 2010 - TBC

The
Youth Dance
Academy -

URBAN



THE YOUTH DANCE ACADEMY—Exeter

The YDA-Exeter programme runs on Sundays once a month in Exeter and will be supplemented with intensive courses during October 2009, December 2009 (auditioning students only), February, April and May 2010. Each intensive will be based in a different area of the south west region.

The YDA-Exeter will run on the 1st Sunday per month unless preceded by a public holiday or YDA intensive. Please see below.

N.B. DATES MAYBE SUBJECT TO CHANGE

Induction weekend:

Sun 6th Sept 2006

Term dates:

Autumn 2009:

Term 1: Sundays 6th Sept & 4th Oct 2009
Autumn intensive: Mon 26th Tues 27th & Wed 28th Oct 2009
Term 2: Sundays 8th Nov & 6th Dec 2009

Coaching course—auditioning students only:

Mon 28th Tues 29th Wed 30th & Thurs 31st
Dec 2009

Spring 2010:

Term 3: Sundays 10th Jan – 7th Feb 2010
Spring intensive #1: Mon 15th Tues 16th Wed 17th & Thurs 18th
Feb 2010
Term 4: Sundays 7th Mar 2010
Spring intensive #2: Mon 5th Tues 6th Wed 7th & Thurs 8th April '10

Summer 2010:

Term 5: Sundays 17th April – 2nd May 2010
Summer intensive: Mon 31st May, Tues 1st Wed 2nd & Thurs 3rd
June 2010
Term 6: Sundays 13th June – 4th July 2007

Performance dates:

'DanceHouse' June 2010, Swindon - TBC
YDA tech & dress Saturday 10th July 2010, Swindon
YDA show Sunday 11th July 2010 afternoon &
Evening, Swindon
YDA VIP show Monday 12th July 2010, Swindon
The Place, London 31st July OR 7th Aug 2010 - TBC, London
South West performance TBC

The
Youth Dance
Academy -

Exeter

Swindon Dance
working with Dance
South West



THE SELECTION PROCESS

Selection is by audition only.

Each YDA programme follows a two stage selection process:

- Stage 1: Initial selection.
This is an opportunity for dancers, teachers, par-
ents & carers to find out more about the YDA
and to enable the YDA team to make an initial se-
lection for the final auditions in stage 2.
- Stage 2: Final auditions.
The final cohort for each YDA programme will be
chosen from the final auditions.

YDA-Swindon & Urban programmes:

Initial selection rounds (stage 1) for the Swindon and Urban pro-
grammes will be held in Swindon, Wiltshire, Bristol & Gloucester
during May and June 2009.

The final auditions (stage 2) for the Swindon & Urban programmes
will be held at Swindon Dance, Swindon in July 2009.

YDA-Exeter programme:

Initial selection rounds (stage 1) for the Exeter programme will be
held in Cornwall, Devon and Somerset during May and June 2009.

The final audition (stage 2) for the Exeter programme will be held in
Exeter in July 2009.

All programmes:

The auditions will cover different dance styles and will
focus upon each dancer's attitude and passion for
movement rather than technical prowess.

All participants at the final auditions will receive feed-
back from the selection panel.

**Participants may be required to take a day out of
school or college to attend the final auditions.**

SELECTION 2009

1st stage
Initial selection



2nd stage
Final audition

AUDITIONS

YDA-swindon

SWINDON, WILTS, BRIS-
TOL & GLOUC.

YDA-urban

SWINDON, WILTS, BRIS-
TOL & GLOUC.

YDA-Exeter

CORNWALL, DEVON &
SOMERSET



SELECTION CRITERIA

There will be a panel consisting of local and national dance artistes at all auditions, plus staff of Swindon Dance and the Youth Dance Academy.

The panel will assess applicants on the following criteria:

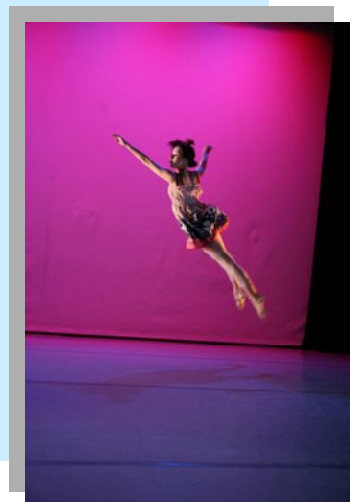
- **Physicality**
Suitability of body type and physical commitment to movement material.
- **Musicality**
Physical response to music both rhythmically and emotionally.
- **Creativity**
Ability to apply imagination and creative ideas to movement material.
- **Expressiveness**
Depth and quality of expression.
- **Attitude**
Commitment to and focus on the dance work.
- **Presence**
The '*je ne sais quoi*' of the performer, the 'wow' factor.

APPLYING FOR A YDA PROGRAMME:

If you wish to apply to audition for the YDA please complete the enclosed application form and return to:

Selection Manager, YDA, Swindon Dance, Town Hall Studios,
Regent Circus, Swindon. SN1 1QF

E-MAIL: yda@swindondance.org.uk
TEL: 01793 601700



DCSF CRITERIA for GRANT AID 2009

These notes are only a summary and are intended for guidance purposes only.

Final assessment will follow once a student has been accepted onto the academy.

The DCSF grants are for young dancers with exceptional potential in dance and for those who do not have the financial means to access the best available training.

Subject to means testing, individual grants range from £351 to £3,510 per year.

The cost per year per student for the YDA (all strands) is £3,510.

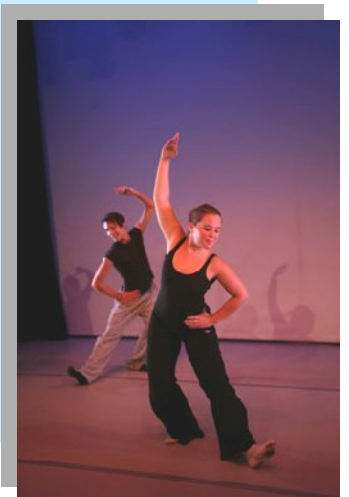
This fee will be either a combined DCSF grant and parental contribution, full DCSF grant with no parental contribution OR full parental contribution with no DCSF grant. Please see chart on page 16 for full details.

ELIGIBILITY FOR A NATIONAL GRANT:

In order to qualify for a DCSF grant, students should;

- Be normally resident in the British Isles.
- Have been a resident in the British Isles for a minimum of three years.
- Be 11 years of age during the year of entry onto the academy and not normally more than 16 years of age as at 1st September of the year of entry onto the academy.
- Be a full-time registered pupil at a mainstream or independent school in the UK or be educated at home by parents or carers.
- Be successful at audition.
- Have an appropriate and agreed Individual Training Plan (following acceptance on the academy).

N.B. A child who has lived abroad for all or part of the prescribed period may still be regarded as ordinarily resident if the time spent abroad was due to a parent being temporarily employed overseas with no intention of settling there permanently.



RELEVANT INCOME:

The information below is a general guideline, more in-depth notes are available following acceptance on the Youth Dance Academy. Determination of eligibility on income grounds is based on the income declaration on Form NGMD1.

Documentary evidence will be required.

Declarations of income refer to the preceding financial year e.g. for entry onto this years' academy 2009/10 the relevant financial year is 6th April 2008 to 5th April 2009.

As a general rule, definitions of income follow as closely as possible those used by HM Inspector of Taxes for income tax purposes and parents must declare gross income before tax from **ALL** sources.

Social Security benefits on which tax is not payable do not form part of the relevant income.

MAINTENANCE PAYMENTS AND CHILD SUPPORT MAINTENANCE:

Only applies where parents are making or receiving maintenance payments in compliance with a Court Order, a separation agreement or under arrangements made by the Child Support Agency.

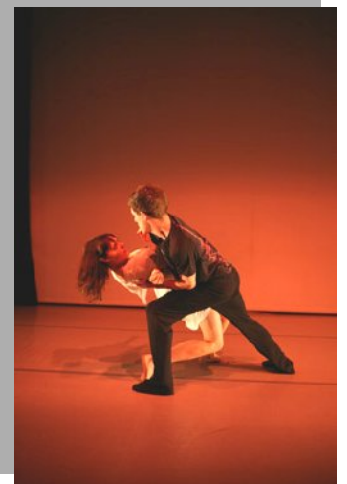
Where a parent makes or receives voluntary payments, these can not be taken into account.

RELEVANT INCOME:

The total relevant income is arrived at by adding the amounts entered on the form for the income of both parents and dependant children, with any other adjustments required and by making the following deductions:

- An allowance of £1,830 for school year 2009/10 in respect of each child or other relative living in the household, including the academy participant and who is wholly or mainly financially dependant upon the parents.
- The amount of any covenant taken out prior to 15th March 1988, paid by a parent to a dependant child.
- The gross amount of any maintenance payment.

N.B. Foster children do not count as dependants.
A spouse does not count as a dependant.
Children in higher or further education may normally be regarded as dependants in this context.



AMOUNT OF GRANT AND PARENT'S CONTRIBUTION

The full amount of a national grant from September 2009 will be £3,510 a year.

Parents will not have to make a contribution if the total family income before tax is £28,793 or less (after deducting £1,830 for any dependant children including the grant holder) in the tax year ending 5th April 2009.

If the family's relevant income is more than £28,793 grant applications will be eligible for a smaller grant and the parents will be asked to make a contribution as shown below:

Total family income	Amount of DCSF grant	Amount of parental contribution
Up to £28,793	£3,510	nil
£28,794 to £32,632	£3,159	£351
£32,633 to £36,471	£2,808	£702
£36,472 to £40,311	£2,457	£1,053
£40,312 to £44,150	£2,106	£1,404
£44,151 to £47,989	£1,755	£1,755
£47,990 to £51,829	£1,404	£2,106
£51,830 to £55,668	£1,053	£2,457
£55,669 to £59,507	£702	£2,808
£59,508 to £63,344	£351	£3,159
Over £63,344	nil	£3,510

If you require further assistance or advise regarding the YDA please contact;

The Selection Manager,
The YDA, Swindon Dance, Town Hall
Studios, Regent Circus, Swindon, Wilts.
SN1 1QF

Tel: 01793 601700
E-mail: yda@swindondance.org.uk

