

FREQUENTLY ASKED QUESTIONS 2024-25

Welcome to the world of dance at its finest with Swindon Dance's Centre for Advanced Training (CAT). Here, we provide world-class dance training to dedicated young talents aged 11-19, across various dance genres, with a focus on contemporary dance. We are proud to be one of nine National CATs across the UK.

We understand that you have questions and we are here to answer them. Please find below our Frequently Asked Questions (FAQs) about the Bournemouth Contemporary (pilot) Programme.

The Centre for Advanced Training (CAT)

What is the CAT?

Q1

Swindon Dance's Centre for Advanced Training (CAT) is a dance training scheme for young talents aged 11-19. Our programmes cater to dedicated dancers with a passion for their art. We are one of nine National CATs across the UK.

Who can join the CAT

Do I need to live in Bournemouth to attend?

Q2

No, the CAT scheme is open to students across the South West of the UK. Students from Cornwall, Devon, Somerset, Wiltshire and Dorset travel to train with the CAT. CAT will reimburse the cost of travel for those living outside of Bournemouth.

Does it matter if I haven't had lots of Contemporary Dance experience?

Q3

No formal dance experience is required; we are looking for enthusiastic and motivated young people with exceptional potential and an interest in dance.

The Bournemouth Contemporary (Pilot) Programme

Q4

What does it mean to be on a pilot programme?

The Bournemouth Contemporary (pilot) Programme is a 10-week programme that will start in November 2024. It will be based at Pavilion Dance South West and run weekly Saturday afternoons between 11:00 and 4:30pm. Students will study; contemporary, ballet, improvisation, choreography and performance.

Q5

Will the programme continue after February 2025?

If the pilot is successful then you will be invited to join a longer programme scheduled to start in September 2025.

Financial Information

Q6

What are the fees?

The CAT is supported by the Department for Education (DfE) via means tested grants. For those who qualify - training is FREE or subsidised.

Q7

What financial support can I get?

Please take a look at the financial support guidelines to find out more.

Term Dates

Q8

What are the term dates?

Term 1: 9th November - 7th December 2024

Term 2: 11th January - 8th February 2025

End of Term Sharing: 8th February 2025

Q9

Does it matter if I haven't had lots of Contemporary Dance experience?

No formal dance experience is required; we are looking for enthusiastic and motivated young people with exceptional potential and an interest in dance.

Joining the Bournemouth Contemporary (pilot) Programme

Q10

How can I join the Bournemouth Contemporary (pilot) programme

Entry onto the CAT is by audition only. If you would like to apply please complete an application form. Our next auditions will be held in September 2024. The CAT audition is FREE to attend but an application form must be completed and submitted in order to reserve a place.

Q11

How will this fit in with my school work?

All CAT classes happen out of school hours. The programme leaders and/or mentors can help you plan your time using your Individual Training Plan (ITP) so that you fit in both your schoolwork and your dance lessons.

Q12

How do I apply?

Complete an application form and a member of the team will be in touch to confirm your place on the audition.

Q13

I have some more questions, how do I get in touch?

The CAT team will be very happy to help answer your queries regarding the programme. Please get in touch: cat@swindondance.org.uk

We are located at Regent Circus, Swindon, SN1 1QF. You can also register your place online at swindondance.org.uk/how-to-apply-cat/.

Stay connected with us on social media at [@swindondancecat](https://www.instagram.com/swindondancecat) and learn more about us at swindondance.org.uk/cat. We look forward to welcoming you to the CAT family!