



WELCOME!  
BCDA YEAR 7, 2027  
QUESTION & ANSWER  
SESSION

# TEACHING STAFF

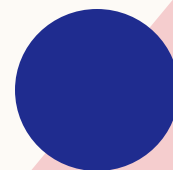
# BCDA CAPTAIN



Melissa Quenette  
Director of Dance  
VCE and  
junior dance



Annalise Occhietti  
Dance Teacher  
VET dance and  
junior dance



Ruby Pollock  
Year 11 VET  
Dance Student



# WHO ARE WE?

**“BUILDING THE NEXT GENERATION  
OF DANCERS & LEADERS AT  
BERWICK COLLEGE”**

**OVER THE PAST DECADE, THE JUNIOR DANCE CURRICULUM AT BCDA HAS BEEN CAREFULLY CRAFTED TO CREATE A CLEAR AND PROGRESSIVE PATHWAY FROM YEAR 7 THROUGH TO VCE AND VET DANCE. THIS CURRICULUM NOT ONLY NURTURES TECHNICAL SKILLS BUT ALSO FOSTERS CRITICAL THINKING, CREATIVITY, AND A DEEP UNDERSTANDING OF DANCE THEORY. WE ARE INCREDIBLY PROUD OF THE JOURNEY WE'VE TAKEN TO DEVELOP THIS CURRICULUM, WHICH REFLECTS THE EVOLVING NEEDS OF OUR STUDENTS AND THE BROADER DANCE INDUSTRY.**

# JUNIOR CURRICULUM FOCUS

## A Progressive and Accelerated Approach to Dance Education

Our program is designed to build upon each year's learning, ensuring that students are progressively challenged and well-prepared for senior dance studies. Students are introduced to more advanced concepts and techniques that will form the foundation for their VCE and VCE VET Dance outcomes. This scaffolded approach accelerates their learning, while maintaining a strong focus on the fundamentals of dance technique, choreography, and performance.

## Hands-on Industry Experience

Our junior students are not only learning in the classroom—they are actively engaging with the professional dance world. Each year, students participate in industry days, where they are exposed to industry-level choreography and interact with professional dancers and choreographers. This hands-on approach allows students to understand the demands and expectations of the dance industry while still in their junior years.

Additionally, our students have multiple performance opportunities, including participation in a national competition where they perform with their peers, giving them invaluable experience in a competitive, real-world setting. These performance opportunities are complemented by professional photoshoots, further enhancing their skills and preparing them for future dance auditions and careers.



# CURRICULUM CONT.

- Choreographic Development and Creativity
- Exploration of Diverse Dance Styles
- Experiential Learning Through Live Performances
- Critical Dance Analysis and Cultural Awareness
- Health and Wellbeing Focus  
ISN Sports Psychology
- Collaborative and Team-Building Opportunities



# BCDA FEE BREAKDOWN

**Year 7 - 9 course fee \$600 per year**  
(Rowville Institute of the Arts \$1650 per year for comparison)

- BCDA uniform jacket (Year 7 only)
- BCDA uniform t-shirt
- Performance excursion
- Costuming for all competitions and performances
- Incursions
- Competition choreography
- Style based professional workshops
- Celebration activities
- Competition entry fees
- Professional headshots
- Professional photoshoots

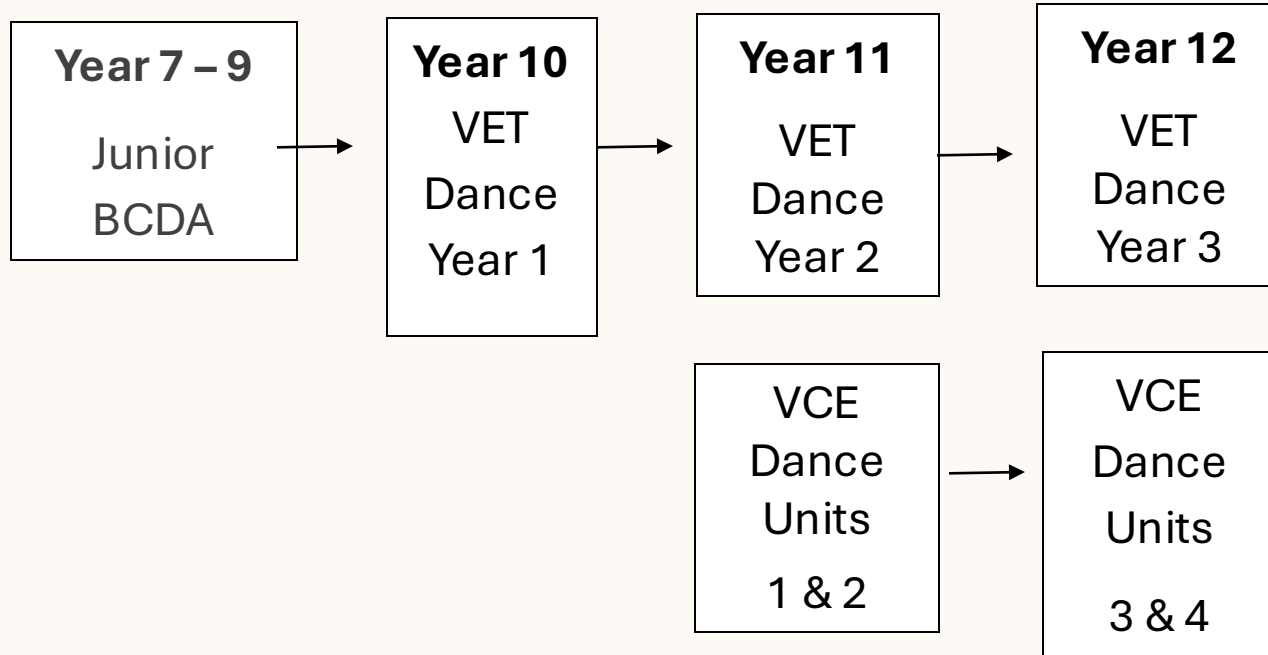
**VCE VET Course Fee is government funded. Excursions and competitions are student funded.**

**VCE Dance \$250 per year (subject to change)**

*These activities may change depending on what incursions and excursions are available that year. Fee does not include choreographic competition entry fees, public transport, USA Study tour or Nationals.*



# BCDA PATHWAYS



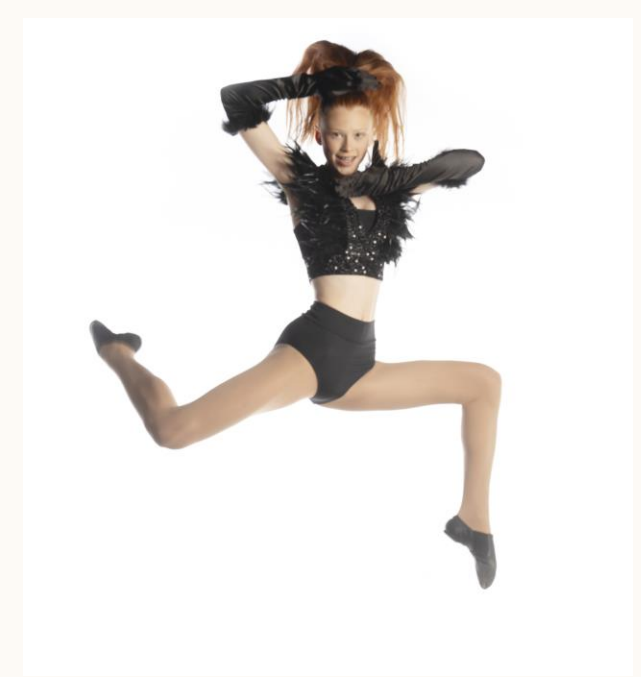
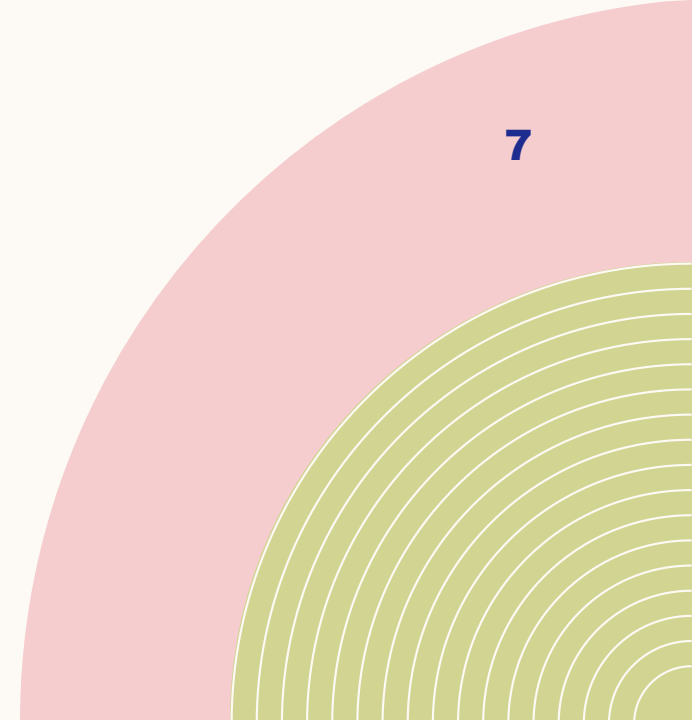
Deakin University - Dance (Bachelor of Creative Arts)

Melbourne University - Dance (Bachelor of Fine Arts)

Diploma in Dance / Diploma of Musical Theatre

Certificate IV in Dance Training & Management

Full-time Professional Dance Course



# HOW DOES THE PROGRAM FIT IN THE SCHOOL TIMETABLE?



1 period = 58 minutes

Year 7 = 5 periods per week

Year 8 = 5 periods per week

Year 9 = 4 periods per week

## What falls outside of this?

- Assessment nights
- Dance production
- Choreographic competition
- Nationals' competition
- Victorian State Schools Spectacular
- Performance excursions

# NATIONALS





Dance ★

NATIONAL CHAMPIONSHIPS



# BERWICK COLLEGE CHOREOGRAPHIC COMPETITION



*Beda*  
Berwick College Dance Academy

SEEKING ALL BERWICK COLLEGE DANCERS!



Friday  
17  
July

3.30pm  
-  
9:30pm



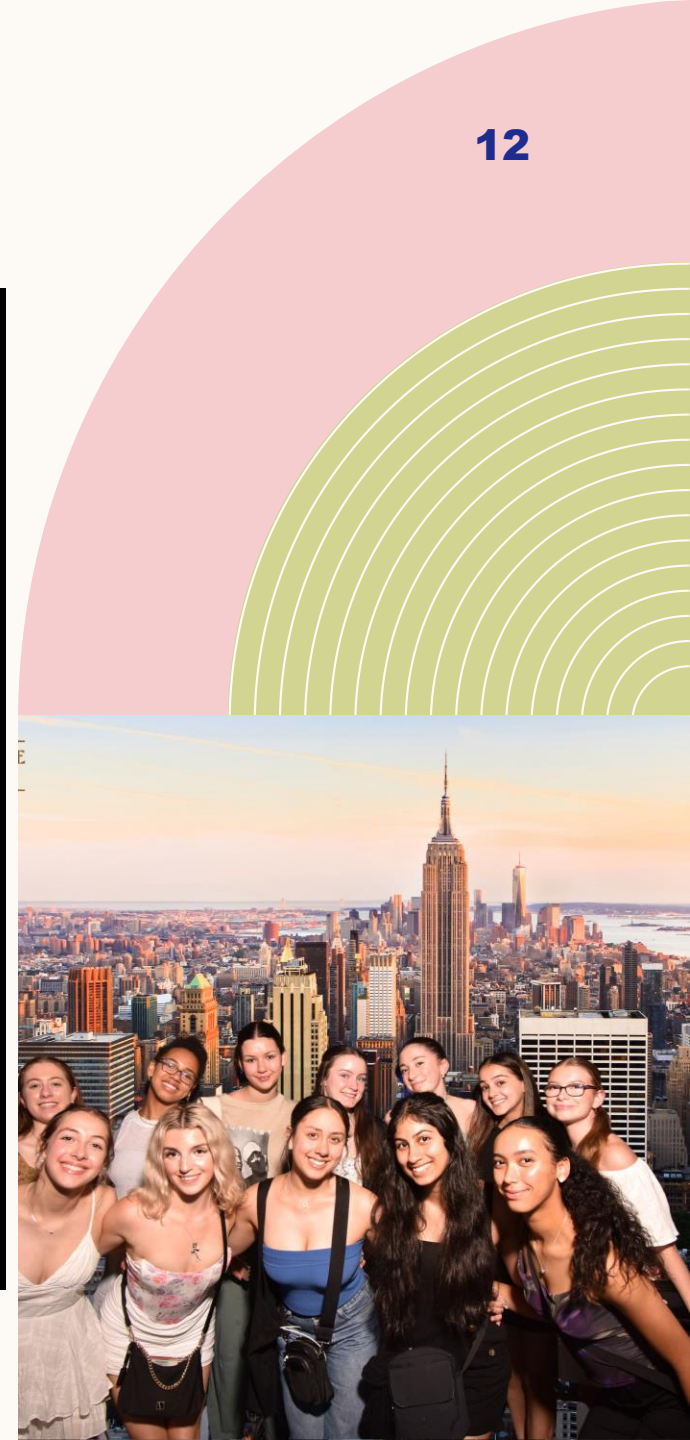
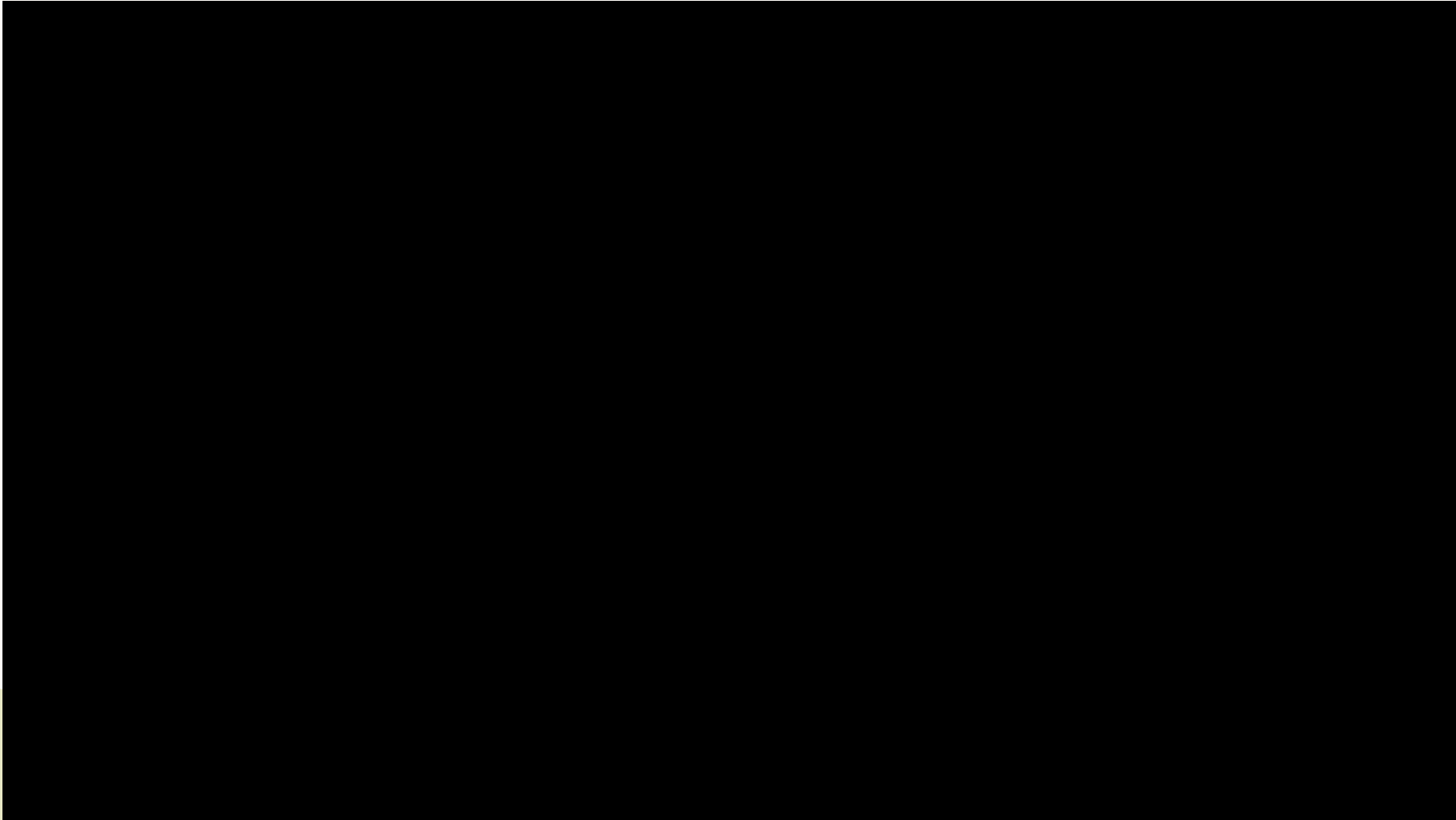
**BERWICK COLLEGE**  
Choreographic Competition

Come and join us in the PAC for a fun competition to show off your creativity in dance! This is open to all Berwick College students. Sections include cultural dance, hip hop, lyrical and many more.

**For More Information:**  
Contact Ms Quenette  
Melissa.Quenette@education.vic.gov.au  
Or come to the PAC office! Use the QR code to submit your entry.



# NEW YORK STUDY TOUR



# VICTORIAN STATE SCHOOL SPECTACULAR



# EXCURSIONS



Berwick College



# APPLICATION PROCESS

1. Expression of interest made via QR code.
2. Year 6 to 7 Placement Information Pack 2026-2027 to be submitted.
3. **24<sup>th</sup> of June:** Primary schools inform parents/carers of their child's placement offer.
4. **From 25<sup>th</sup> of June:** Families contacted by Berwick College with audition booking information.





# OUT OF ZONE APPLICATIONS

Berwick College is a zoned school. Please check [Findmyschool.vic.gov.au](https://www.findmyschool.vic.gov.au) if you are unsure of your zone.

If you are out of zone and your enrolment is rejected, there is an appeals process.

Please note that all grade 6 students who applied for Berwick College in 2025 were offered a place for 2026.

# AUDITION PROCESS

You will be emailed after **June 25<sup>th</sup>** with audition booking information. Your place at Berwick College will be confirmed by then.

Auditions will be held at the Berwick College Performing Arts Centre on **Tuesday July 14<sup>th</sup>** from **3:45pm.**

If you cannot make the audition, an alternative audition time will be made.



# AUDITION CONT.

**Group audition 40 minutes** - Students will participate in a jazz style workshop where they will demonstrate progressions, flexibility and learn a short phrase of choreography.

**Solo audition (surname alphabetical order)** – Students will individually enter the performance space and perform a solo that is between 1 – 1.5 minutes. This can be any style of dance, and either be self choreographed or choreographed by a teacher. No parents/carers allowed to watch.

**Music is to be on a phone or device.**

**Students are to wear form fitting clothes (shorts/leggings/leotard/singlet), jazz shoes or bare feet. Please bring appropriate shoes for solo.**



# FREQUENTLY ASKED QUESTIONS



1. Is there a possibility that there will be all female classes?
2. Does my child have to be currently enrolled in a dance school?
3. Is there a cap on enrolment numbers for 2027?
4. Can my child be involved in the High Achievers Program and the BCDA?
5. What electives will BCDA students forfeit to make room for dance classes?
6. Does my child need to re-audition at the end of each year?
7. What happens if competition dates and performances clash with your dancing studios performances?

# ANY QUESTIONS?



For more information about the dance academy contact  
[Melissa.Quenette@education.vic.gov.au](mailto:Melissa.Quenette@education.vic.gov.au)  
For general enrolment inquires contact  
[enrolments@berwickcollege.vic.edu.au](mailto:enrolments@berwickcollege.vic.edu.au)

