



**MSJ
INFORMATION
BOOK**

WWW.MSJPRODUCTIONS.COM.AU

Welcome

It's our absolute pleasure to warmly welcome you into our family at MSJ Productions. Our team is thrilled to see many familiar faces return to the studio and even more excited to see some new faces join our community. We have created this one-stop handbook to hopefully shed some light on how things will run throughout the year as well as answer a lot of queries you may have before the year begins. While we would love you to take the time to read this information carefully and keep your handbook in a safe place to refer to as you need, don't forget that our friendly office staff are always here to help and will happily answer any queries you may have. Nothing is too big or too small, we promise! ☺

QUICK REFERENCE STUDIO INFORMATION

Address: 34 Port Kembla Drive Bibra Lake

Phone Number: 0447 691 397

Email: admin@msjproductions.com.au

Website: www.msjproductions.com.au

Mission + Vision

To start us off, it's important to us at MSJ that all members of our team share our vision, our purpose and the philosophy that encompasses everything we do both in and outside of our classes. This is a vision that is shared and demonstrated by the directors, teachers and staff members at our studio and it is the driving force behind every interaction with our students and their families.

MSJ Productions is place where kids of all ages shapes and sizes learn to dance, sing and perform. This is a studio where creativity, individuality and self-expression is encouraged and has a community of teachers, students and families who are passionate about performing arts. Our goal is to create a positive and happy experience for all of our students. We strive to nurture and develop talent, celebrate the achievements of all students and inspire a love and appreciation of all styles of dance and the arts. We are committed to providing a safe and positive environment in which all students can feel empowered, comfortable and free to express themselves.

For the whole family: The whole family can enjoy classes by participating in activities at MSJ. We offer vocal tuition, dance, private lessons, musical theatre, boys only classes, acrobatics and pre school programs.

Be part of a community: You can socialise, have fun, and meet new friends and parents

Two streams + perfect balance: We have the best of both worlds at MSJ - classes to suit your child's skill level, schedule, personality and commitment. Students are encouraged to come just for fun or to train at an elite level with added competitions, performances and speciality programs.

We are passionate about spreading the joy of dance and performing arts. We want them to grow up with a love of dance and singing and always have a second place that they can call home at MSJ.



Age Groups

Children are allocated to classes primarily based on age. This is to ensure that students are surrounded by children of similar age and ability level, and can progress and develop at the appropriate pace. The age for all classes is taken as the child's age as at 31st December the year of the classes.

Mummy (or Daddy!) & Me - 18mths to Under 3 years

TiniStars - 2.5 - 6 years

Ready Set Dance - 2 - 5 years

Junior - 7 - 10 years

Intermediate - 11 - 14 years

Senior - 15 + years

Some classes are mixed age, so please check timetable for specific ages.

Attendance

Your child's attendance in class is very important to their peers and our teaching staff. As a member of the team, it is a commitment for you to ensure your child attends their classes on time each week and attends all lessons planned for them. Not only do absences impact the concert routines we create, it also impacts the social and confidence-building principals we work hard to foster in each age group.

If you know ahead of time that your child will be absent due to holidays/vacations, commitments or school trips, please let us know so the class impact is minimal. If your child is too unwell to attend class, we ask that you inform our admin team as soon as you can so they can let the teachers know and preparations can be made to catch up on any missed work. Simply sms our office phone.

We do not offer refunds for missed classes due to illness, injury, holiday or anything, however in some cases may be able to provide a makeup lesson.

Musical Theatre

Musical Theatre: Production (7-12yrs and 13+ yrs)

Our production classes are taken in a 4 part program. Students can not take the Musical Theatre: Production class alone, as they also need Jazz Dance and Singing classes to support their theatrical development in this style.

Musical Theatre: Production extends students; putting all these amazing skills that we are giving the students into practice! The class will be put on a mid year musical!

As the leading performing arts studio in Perth in Musical Theatre, we want to keep offering opportunities for our students to get up on stage and do what they love. All rehearsals will take place during class time and therefore no extra days will be needed. The whole class will be involved in the musical, similar to our Broadway Boot Camp experience in many ways, with casting for the show happening in class, where we can explain more and go into the audition process with our students. Students in the class will be encouraged to try for lead or minor roles, but we understand that some of the newer students may not want to try this yet and we will just keep encouraging them until they are ready to give this a go. With a great mix of talent in the class we are sure that we can put on some fantastic productions for family and friends to enjoy.

The Musical Theatre: Production class will now incorporate 3 teachers:
Director, Choreographer, Musical Director

Musical Theatre is a 2 part program for 7-10 years. Students can not take the Musical Theatre class alone, as they also need to take a technique class to support their theatrical development in this style. We recommend jazz or tap dance, however its your choice - some take singing, ballet or one of the other options.

Musical Theatre classes cover all Broadway and West End musical genres from 1920's to current musicals. Students incorporate both song & dance in their routines and also enjoy element of drama and acting. This is the class where all the skills being learnt in their technique classes comes through in the performance aspect.



Vocal

Singing

If you love singing and want to extend your vocal technique, then you will love this class! Develop your voice and widen your repertoire with this vocal training and artist development class. Showcase your vocal talents with class performances, recording time and vocal assessment. Cover a curriculum of different musical styles and genres. A wonderful class with regular performance opportunities throughout the year.

Classical Voice

Classical Voice is an extension program designed for those students serious about developing their classical technique and with a direction of developing their voice for Musical Theatre. The class size will be strictly limited to no more than 8 students and selection is by application. Please email admin@msjproductions.com.au and include current enrolled classes, a little background on the student, their age and a little about their goals in regards to their voice and training and future.

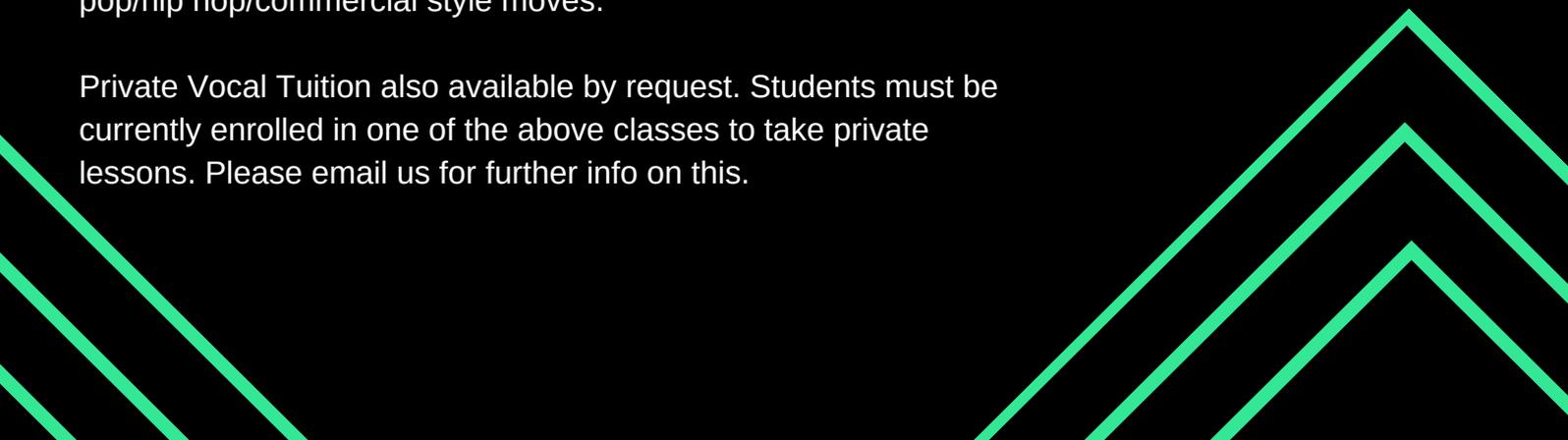
Boys Only Singing

The perfect class for boys aged 7-12 years old who want to focus on building a repertoire of songs, audition pieces and focusing on their vocal technique. This class will allow boys the opportunity to improve not only their voice, but their performance skills. Learning to sing with emotion, feeling and star quality!

Song & Dance

Do you love singing and dancing to songs by pop artists and other Top 40 hits? Well Song & Dance is great for beginners to advanced! Students learn to sing to a variety of different styles of music with an emphasis on pop music. Singing technique and microphone skills are taught alongside performance skills and pop/hip hop/commercial style moves.

Private Vocal Tuition also available by request. Students must be currently enrolled in one of the above classes to take private lessons. Please email us for further info on this.



Ballet

The basis of every dancer is ballet training. Provides a sound grounding in posture, strength, flexibility and technique. Any dancer who wishes to excel in dance must take Ballet classes. Students are taught barre work, centre work, strengthening and turns. RAD Ballet available for some ages. Pointe classes and PBT (Progressing Ballet Technique) classes also available.

Jazz

Jazz dance classes consist of commercial jazz incorporating a blend of technique, strength and style. Jazz dancing is energetic and fun, incorporating big leaps and quick turns. To do your best in jazz, dancers need are encouraged to also take ballet, as it encourages grace and balance.

Tap

Tap dancing is one of the most entertaining, light hearted and classic of all the dance styles. Tap dance is a musical art form and a fun-filled way to develop rhythm, co-ordination and balance. Tap is levelled so you can start as a beginner or an advanced student. We follow the Tapatak syllabus.

Lyrical + Contemporary

Contemporary is based on the technical aspects of Classical ballet & Jazz dance. Contemporary dance principles include: centering, alignment, contraction, release, fall & recovery, suspension, balance & off-balance, tension & relaxation, opposition & emotion.

Lyrical dance routines are more expressive normally choreographed to a ballad or slow song. Lyrical dance requires strength, technique, musicality & imagination. It is a passionate, expressive dance style in which the dancer conveys & interprets the story & emotions of the music. Ballet is a prerequisite for these classes.

Hip Hop

Hip Hop music and dancing has a unique and unmistakable style that is very popular. Don't miss out on the challenge and fun of hip hop style, while learning exciting choreography with all the latest moves. Classes are choreography based and a variety of different hip hop styles are incorporated.





Dance Cirque

We are extremely excited to announce that we are introducing a new and exciting program into our curriculum "Dance Cirque". Developed by Linda Burger a 7th generation European circus artist it is a class that we know our kids will absolutely love. They get to climb, juggle and learn tricks in a safe environment.

Dance Cirque is great for boys and girls and you don't need to be a dancer to enjoy it. It works on level cards so everyone progresses at their own pace. It not only involves an apparatus (silks, lyra, trapeze) but also a ground act (juggling and hula hooping). Great for cognitive development, strength and flexibility and mostly confidence.



Acrobatics

A fun and challenging class. Learn how to do tricks such as cartwheels, byranis, balances and backflips! Classes are open to all ages and are set to skill levels. Acrobatics also gives you an edge as a dancer/performer, tricks are great to add to jazz, hip hop and musical theatre routines. (Jazz is also highly recommended for acro students)

Contortion

The perfect extension class for acrobatics students. Contortion will work on your flexibility, strength and balance. Students work at their own level and progress when ready. This class gives students the chance to focus on safely improving their flexibility in all areas including shoulders, neck, back and legs.



Elite Company

The MSJ Elite Company is a stream of classes that provides a structured approach to developing a dancer into a well-rounded performer. A minimum number of training hours is required along with commitment to external performances and competitions.

Students train in various areas and/or all styles with the goal of extending themselves to be the best they can be.

Many Elite classes will work towards competitions with troupes in lyrical, jazz, musical theatre and hip hop as the most common styles. Some Elite classes focus solely on developing technique.

Entry is by audition only.



MSJ

E L I T E

MSJ Academy

MSJ Academy is the perfect introduction to the world of competition. In this way, we find its a good starting point for many to gain more confidence, build stage presence and improve technique. It's also perfect for families looking for a smaller commitment both financially and time-wise.

Students will take their normal classes with the addition of 1 extra class of MSJ Academy. In this class students will learn performance routines and develop extra performance skills to support this.

Ages each year vary due to demand but usually:

MSJ Academy 12/u

MSJ Academy 6/u

Class pre-requisites will be:

1 x Jazz Class

1 x Singing Class or Song & Dance Class or Musical Theatre

OR

1 x Tini Triple Threat Class

All MSJ Academy students will be on MSJ 3 Membership at a minimum. Email elite@msjproductions.com.au for more info!



Where kids **LOVE** to perform

MSJ

academy

Further Opportunities + Events

ANNUAL SHOWCASE (CONCERT)

All students are invited to perform in the MSJ Annual Showcase. This is an entertaining showcase featuring all dance students, from pre-schoolers to pre-professional students. With stage lights, costumes, and 'all that jazz', this is the highlight performance of the year. This event is not compulsory for all students but highly recommended. Parents are expected to help at a minimum of 1 of the performances (backstage, shop, sign in/out etc). The event is usually held late November with the actual date being released at the start of the year.



TINISTARS CONCERT

Our TiniStars students aged 6 and under have their own special performances similar to our Annual Showcase. Held in the morning these shows are shorter (usually 1- 1.5 hours) and designed to focus solely on our special TiniStar students to give them a unique and fun experience.



COMMUNITY PERFORMANCES

MSJ proudly provides their performance students with various performance opportunities throughout the year.

Events include the Perth Royal Show, RAC Christmas Pageant, Carol Singing and more!



COMPETITIONS

'Elite Company' & 'MSJ Academy' students proudly represent MSJ as a group in many genres at competitions throughout the year.



SINGING CONCERT

A relaxed but exciting performance opportunity for our private singing students and vocal classes to perform for an audience of family and friends. This event is a great way for the students to build confidence with their singing, and gain valuable performing experience in this area.

MID-YEAR MUSICALS

Our Musical Theatre Production students present their chosen mid-year musicals around September each year. We love the support of our students and families at these events. The standard is always very high and a highlight of the year.



Membership

Registration Fee

Paid at the time of enrolment and paid each year.

Membership Fees

Membership at MSJ can be paid by the term or by fortnight. Membership is ongoing for the year. You can not amend membership or cancel midterm. Please ensure we are informed if you wish to cancel for the following term before payment is made as we do not refund for any reason.

Please read our Membership Information for full fees and policies.

FAQ

How do I enrol?

To enrol, please click enrol now on our website (www.msjproductions.com.au)

Where can I find a timetable?

The timetable is available on our website or by emailing us to request a copy.

How do I know what classes to enrol into?

If you're not sure, please contact us to guide you.

When do I need to purchase the uniform? Is it compulsory?

The uniform is compulsory. Uniform can be ordered at reception.

Can I swap classes?

Yes subject to availability and suitability.

Can I get a refund?

No, unfortunately we do not offer refunds. Places are booked for a minimum enrolment time of one term, regardless of participation.

Can I go into the studio with my child to watch the classes?

Studio access is restricted to students and teachers only. Parents, siblings and friends are not permitted in the dance rooms. We have mid year open days where you can come and watch your child.

Where can I park?

We have bays in front of our studio, or you can make use of our drop off zone next to our Stage Door entrance.

When can I speak to teachers to see how my child is going?

Unfortunately, teachers are not available before, during or after classes as classes run back to back. Please direct all inquiries to our office and then we can pass on answers/feedback from the teacher or organise a time to chat.

How can I contact teachers and staff?

Through the MSJ office only (phone, email, in person). It isn't appropriate to communicate via private social media or request teachers contact information.

Uniforms

Tini Stars Programs (6 & under)

MUMMY (OR DADDY!) & ME

As for Ballerina Stars (but not compulsory for this class)

BALLERINA STARS

Tini Stars Tutu

Pink ballet stockings (or ballet socks in warmer months)

Pink ballet shoes with elastics (tucked in)

TINI BALLET

MSJ Leotard & MSJ crossover for colder days & Pink ballet stockings (or ballet socks in warmer months)

Pink ballet shoes with elastics (tucked in)

BROADWAY BABIES/TINI TRIPLE THREAT

MSJ Uniform – either MSJ Leotard & Shorts or MSJ Dress (with attached leo)

Tan jazz shoes or tan acro shoes

Tan tap shoes

READY SET DANCE

Ready Set Dance Tutu (girls) or RSD Tshirt with Black Shorts (boys)

Girls tan jazz and tap shoes, Boys Black jazz (or sneakers) and tap shoes

TINI ACROBATICS

MSJ Uniform – either MSJ Leotard & Shorts or MSJ Dress (with attached leo)

Tan acrobatic or jazz shoes

HIPPITY HOP

MSJ Uniform – any style of MSJ top/pants/shorts/dress

Sneakers or canvas shoes

BOYS

BOYS: Black MSJ singlet, Black MSJ shorts plus Black versions of dance shoes.

MSJ Programs (7 & over)

BALLET

MSJ leotard (please check re age/grade for style)

Pink ballet stockings (convertible if also taking lyrical/contemporary)

Pink ballet shoes with elastics (canvas preferred)

Hair in a neat bun

Boys: MSJ singlet or v neck top

MSJ shorts & Black ballet shoes

ALL OTHER CLASSES

Full MSJ Uniform at all times

SHOES/SPECIAL REQUIREMENTS:

Jazz – Girls: Tan jazz shoes Boys: Black jazz shoes

Musical Theatre Production – Depends on the show - but often require chorus shoes

Triple Threat – Girls: Tan acro & tap shoes Boys: Black jazz & tap shoes

Acrobatics – Girls: Tan acro shoes Boys: Black acro shoes & Crossover for winter

Hip Hop – Any trainer/sport/sneakers

Tap – Girls: Tan tap shoes Boys: Black lace-up tap shoes

Pointe – Pointe Shoes

Lyrical/Contemporary – Bare feet or Foot Undies

Song & Dance – Canvas Shoes, Jazz Shoes or Sneakers

DANCE SHOPS (for shoes/tights etc)

Studio Scene 352 Marmion St, Melville 93307670

Glitter Lane South St, O'Connor

Please note: MSJ Uniform is compulsory. MSJ Productions maintains a dress code to encourage concentration and a sense of inclusiveness. Uniformity in dancewear allows the teachers to assess how well the students are implementing the technique being taught, problems with alignment, and other important aspects of dance training. However, most importantly, it promotes studio pride, inclusiveness and a real sense of belonging.