



## SeaSide Dance 2022/2023 Policy Handbook

Welcome to SeaSide Dance where each and every dancer is an important member of our class. We believe dancers should be taught in a safe, nurturing, and positive environment. Below you will find important information regarding classes and policies. Please take a moment to carefully review the information with your dancer and keep it handy for future reference. We would also like for you to sign and return the last page of the rules and policies handbook. We look forward to sharing this special year of dance with you and your family. At SeaSide Dance you will experience how much fun dance can be and all the joy that comes along with it! Let's dance!

**FOR STUDENTS:** The first step to becoming a successful dancer is making a solid commitment to your classes. Strong technique is a key ingredient and class is where you develop that technique. Come to each class each week prepared to learn and without personal distractions. Class time is your chance to focus on yourself; true progress is made when you look at each class as an opportunity to become better at what you love to do. Dance full out, stretch a little further, become more aware, and make the most of every class! Respect for the teacher is essential. Listen to each correction given, whether it is directed at you or another dancer. A correction is an honor; it shows how much a teacher cares about your progress as a dancer. You may receive constructive criticism to help you grow in the fine art of dance and expression. Nothing can stop those students who apply themselves in every class and appreciate the knowledge and experience you will gain.

**FOR PARENTS:** We believe that a child's success depends on the support of their parents or guardians. Because your commitment to the process makes an enormous difference, we encourage you to support your child's dance education. Your child's presence at all classes is imperative. The spirit and the lesson of dedication are a big part of the dance program's learning process. No two students will progress at the same rate, even if they experience the exact same training. It is important to encourage children to focus on themselves, give their all, and be satisfied with their own accomplishments. Making negative comparisons distracts children from focusing on their own dancing experience. In addition, speaking negatively about other students can result in children imitating this behavior with others.

**CLASS PLACEMENT:** Keep in mind that each student progresses at a different rate based on many factors including the number of years they have danced, class attendance, and whether they practice at home. We do not want anyone intimidated by the class work and the speed at which it is taught. As students progress to higher levels, students must have mastered the material in previous levels so we do not have to continuously review what they should already know. It is not fair for current students to slow down the class pace for new students who are not prepared. Understand that we are concerned about the well-being of every child who enters our studio. When a dancer moves into a level they are not prepared for, they will struggle. When Parents and Dancers understand this, and dancers stick to the appropriate levels they will become more focused and stronger dancers.



**STAYING IN THE LOOP:** Keeping you informed is one of my primary goals. Please read through all e-mails and all hand-outs that are sent home. Most of our contact is through e-mail, so please make sure you provide a current e-mail address. I will strive to keep you informed; however, it is your responsibility to keep up to date by checking your email on a regular basis. Also, please make sure to keep your calendars updated with important dates (no class days, breaks, holidays, special events, parent observation days, performances, etc.). If you would like to contact me directly, please send an e-mail to this address: donna@seasidedance.net.

**REGISTRATION:** Students need to be registered by the second week of class. If they are not on the enrollment by then, they will not be able to participate in class until they are properly registered, and all fees are paid.

**ATTENDANCE/ABSENCE :** Our attendance policy is simple-you should always Attend Dance! 😊 Students are expected to be in class each and every week. It is important that students attend all their classes in order to benefit from their training as each class builds upon the previous. We are hopeful that everyone will honor their commitment to their class (or classes) and complete the entire dance season. The quality of what you learn and how you perform in class (and on stage) will be a direct result of your attendance. Make sure you notify the teacher in advance in case you will miss a class.

**ATTIRE:** Please see the studio website for class attire for each genre. It is recommended for students to wear their hair styled away from the face – ponytails, braids, etc.

**CLASS ETIQUETTE:** Bring a good attitude to class. I expect students to observe common courtesy and to be respectful of their teachers and fellow class members. Proper respect is always expected. It is important that students learn to work efficiently as a group and behave in a respectable manner. There will be a wholesome, healthy, age-appropriate atmosphere always. A positive attitude and proper behavior are necessary to ensure a rewarding and productive dance class.

No food or drink is allowed in the studio, besides water. No snacking during class time.

Cell phones are not to be used in class and should be turned off or on mute.

Disrespect, profanity, unsportsmanlike conduct, gossip, and or slanderous remarks will not be tolerated. Positive energy only!

Keep hands off the mirrors and for the sake of your safety and others, please do not play on or hang on barres.

Always use strong arms, stretched feet, proper body alignment and 100% of your energies during class. And remember to smile, learn, and have fun in each class! 😊



**Class Observation:** We appreciate the dancer's families and their support so please allow students to focus on the teaching. No in-class observation except during scheduled parent observation days (dates for observation will be communicated in advance). No visitors are permitted in the dance room during class time.

**LOST AND FOUND:** Please mark all dancewear, shoes, and personal items with your name. We will make every effort to locate and return lost items; however, we cannot be responsible for any items that you bring to class.

**PAYMENTS:** Monthly Payment is due the first class of each month. Credits for missed classes will not be issued. Payments are considered late after the 10<sup>th</sup> of each month and a 10% late fee will be added.

**GENERAL CODE OF CONDUCT:** Please review the policies with your children to help them understand why it is important for everyone to follow the rules. Please remember we value you and your children and want to thank you for choosing us for your/ your child's dance education. Students and parents will conduct themselves in an appropriate manner while at SeaSide Dance and at any performances or events in which SeaSide Dance is being represented. Proper respect for the instructor (s) and the studio is expected of all students, parents/guardians, and siblings. Attitudes that are disrespectful, uncooperative, or aggressive do not have a place at SeaSide Dance. Students will not speak negatively about one another or the teacher(s). Any parent/guardian or student who disrupts class or approaches a teacher, another student or parent with the intent to cause dissent or contravene the policies and procedures of SeaSide Dance will be dismissed immediately. Any inappropriate or slanderous remarks about SeaSide Dance face to face or on any social media site will be cause for immediate dismissal from the classes. Thank you so much for your support.

Please fill out and return this page by e-mail. 😊 BY SIGNING BELOW, I ACKNOWLEDGE I HAVE RECEIVED AND READ THE ABOVE INFORMATION and understand the policies and procedures of SeaSide Dance. I agree to adhere to all the rules and regulations asked of myself and/or my child.

Parent Signature: \_\_\_\_\_ Date: \_\_\_\_\_

Student Signature: \_\_\_\_\_ Date: \_\_\_\_\_

\*\*No student signature required for students pre-school through 2nd grade.

Current Parent E-mail: \_\_\_\_\_

Current Student E-mail: \_\_\_\_\_