
ETIQUETTE IN CLASS



Dance Class Etiquette

Proper dance etiquette is essential to the education and training of a dancer. The following rules are universal and are followed by all major dance programs and professional companies. We ask that you apply them at VSPA as well.

- Arrive at least 10 minutes early to prepare yourself appropriately for class. If late, wait for the exercise in progress to be over before entering the studio. Students arriving late may be asked to observe instead of participate. Class time is very limited and tardiness reduces the amount of time the dancer has to perfect the intricacies of their dance technique.
- If a student needs to leave early, he/she must ask the teacher's permission before class begins. Please leave discreetly so as not to disrupt class.
- If you are going to be absent, call the office so that the teacher can be notified before class begins. If a make up class is available for your class level, arrangements can be made then.
- Stay in the back of the room if you do not know the combination.
- Students should never stop in the middle of an exercise unless an injury is sustained.

- Eyes and attention must always be on the teacher. Talking, leaning on the barre, yawning or leaving class before it is over is not acceptable.
- Dancers show respect for others by: keeping their hands to themselves during class, waiting quietly for others to have a turn, waiting until the music is finished before entering the classroom if they are late to class, and talking only when spoken to by the instructor (or asking a question).
- Dancers show respect for their teacher and the art form they are learning by: listening when the teacher speaks, being prepared for their turn, always asking before leaving the room for any reason, and thanking or applauding their teacher at the end of class.
- Be appreciative of corrections and apply them. Students will progress only as well as they can take corrections.
- Do not talk back to your teacher regardless of the situation. It is improper to question the teacher's authority. If you have a problem, you may talk to the teacher after class.
- Be kind to your classmates. A positive attitude and tone must be kept at all times in the studio and dressing room.
- Displays of temper and rudeness are unacceptable. Your teacher reserves the right to ask you to leave if negative behavior is observed.
- After class, applaud your teacher and thank him/her for class (in Ballet, a bow or curtsy is appropriate).
- Keep your things neat, in your dance bag and off of the studio floor during class.
- No gum chewing, eating or drinking is allowed in the studios, and use the trash can!
- Do not wear your dance shoes outside the studio and do not wear street shoes inside the studio, this preserves the life of your dance wear and the life of our dance floors!
- Please label shoes and other personal items and do not bring valuables to the studio.
- Please leave the dance studio area as soon as your class is over. Remaining in the studio to change clothes, chat with friends, etc. creates a disturbance and often delays the beginning of the next class.
- Parents wishing to discuss their child's progress with the teacher should leave a message on the studio phone, or send an email and the teacher will return the call in a timely fashion. It is very difficult for the teachers to maintain their tight class schedules if they are answering parents' questions in between classes. We appreciate your understanding on this matter.

