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# ETIQUETTE IN CLASS

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## 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.
- Dress for success! Attire should align with each class, see our Dress Code for more specifics. Hair should be up and out of dancers' faces.
- If a student needs to leave early, they 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 or text the studio 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, being on your phone, yawning, or leaving before it is over is not acceptable. Dancers should not be on their phone during class time.
- 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 spoke 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 the 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.
- Displays of temper and rudeness are unacceptable. Your teacher reserves the right to ask you to leave if negative behavior is observed.
- Keep your things neat, in your dance bag and off of the studio floor during class. Please use the cubbies in each dance room to store your items.
- No gum chewing, eating or drinking is allowed in the dance rooms, other than water. Please eat in the lobby and dispose of food and drinks in the lobby trash cans!
- 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! Hip Hop dancers should wear clean white soled sneakers in the dance rooms, black soles mark the floors.
- Wipes are available in each dance room to wipe the bottom of your shoes.
- Please label shoes and other personal items and do not bring valuables to the studio.
- Please leave the dance rooms as soon as your class is over. Remaining in the dance room 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 send an email or text message to the studio. These will be forwarded to the teacher and they can respond when they have time. It is very difficult for the teachers to maintain their tight class schedules if they are answering parents' questions between classes. We appreciate your understanding.