



## Moving Minds Dance, LLC

### Classroom Expectations

**Dress Code:** Our classes have a relaxed dress code that encourages students to be their own full, creative, brilliant selves.

Dance Together, Joyful Movement, Playful Dance: **Bare feet** and comfortable clothing that's easy to move in. Leggings and bare feet are perfect. Leotards, tights, and tutus are a lovely option, but not required. Shorts or leotards must be worn under dresses so that underwear is not visible. Since the floor can be slippery, please avoid sending your child in socks or footed tights. Hair should be pulled back and out of the dancer's face- Ponytails, braids, and headbands do the trick.

Break Tots, Formative & Next Step Breakdance: Hair pulled back from face, lightweight and comfortable clothes, such as sweats, shorts, leggings, t-shirts, tank tops, and **clean street shoes**.

Creative & Formative Ballet: Hair securely pulled back from face and off neck, **ballet shoes**, dance clothes such as comfortable tops, leggings, shorts, leotards, and skirts.

Formative Modern: **Bare feet**. Hair securely pulled back from face and off neck, dance clothes such as leotards, tights, leggings, dance skirts or shorts. Boys may wear dance pants, shorts, or leggings with a t-shirt.

**Water:** Students may bring a water bottle to keep them hydrated during class.

**Bathroom:** Please take your child to the bathroom before class- time flies in our classes, and bathroom breaks can affect the amount dancing we get to do. The bathroom is down the hall from the classroom and shared with everyone using the Community Center space. Preschool students will need to be accompanied to the bathroom by a trusted adult. Elementary aged students will be allowed to go to the bathroom in pairs or small groups, using the buddy system. Students over the age of 10 will be trusted to go independently. Tots should be potty-trained before starting dance.

**New Students:** If your dancer has not taken classes with Moving Minds Dance, it is requested that you (the parent/ guardian) come to the first class, rather than a friend or other family member. This will allow us to touch base about any needs the student may have and take care of any last- minute housekeeping, including going over policies and completing required forms.

**Guests and Visitors:** To ensure the safety and focus of our students, we request your help in maintaining the classroom space as a teacher/student-only zone. No siblings, friends, or guests may participate in class they are not registered for and, except during observation weeks, no visitors are allowed in the studio without previous coordination with the director. Doors to the studio will be left open so that family, friends, and other guests may observe from the hall. During the last class of the session, families and friends are invited in for the last 15 minutes to see to see how much the dancers have learned.

**Before and After Class:** Please come 5 minutes early to prepare for class, as the time flies by when it's filled with dancing. Don't feel that you need to be more than 10 minutes early, as we are in a shared space. Instructors will take attendance in class. At the end of class, instructors will bring the students to the classroom door and ensure that they connect with a trusted adult, unless they have been given express parental permission to leave the classroom area unaccompanied. Instructors are not able to supervise students before or after class.

**Business/ Payment:** All registration and tuition payment is handled through the community center. Please make sure that your student is registered before joining class. Registration for the session can be done online, by phone, or in person, and drop-ins can be arranged by phone or in person at the community center. Session tuition may be pro-rated for late starts. Refunds are made in the case that the community center has to call a cancellation of the class.

**Media:** With family permission, we will occasionally take photo and video footage of students to document and promote what makes these classes so special, and we will provide selected photos for our community to share. In the interest of protecting student privacy, we ask that families and friends keep their cameras off, with the exception of observation weeks, and be mindful when sharing.

**Incidents/ Emergencies:** Any time that a student has trouble in class or sustains a minor injury that doesn't prevent them from participating in class, we will make sure to connect with their parent or caregiver after class. In the event of a true emergency, Moving Minds staff will immediately reach out to parents/ guardians and engage listed emergency contacts if parents are unavailable. They will also engage with the Community Center staff for additional support and contact emergency services via 911. ***Please note, Community Centers are not required to gather emergency contact information for participants in recreational classes. If you plan to be off site at any point during class time, please ensure that both the community center and Moving Minds have a fast and reliable way to get ahold of you.***

**Class Philosophy:** We firmly believe in inclusive community. Our teachers use positive, supportive methods to ensure EVERY student feels safe, seen, and welcome in class.

These classes are designed around the belief that young people are inherently creative and unique, and rise to the expectations that are set for them. Encouragement and positive reinforcement are crucial to an engaging learning experience, and are used without reserve. Technique fundamentals are taught in a nurturing environment with an emphasis on confidently developing body awareness, creative expression, and skills that help dancers forge their own way in the big, wild world. Each class runs within a stable, yet flexible structure so that each minute is fully used.

We know all things can be learned through dance. While our classes provide students with strong technique in line with professional training programs, our primary focus is to develop dancers who are humans first- assured of their own strength, intelligence, poise, and kindness. That's why our classes focus on so much more than dance and we bring the rest of the world into the classroom. Through dance, we have learned about everything from Building Inclusive Community with Social-Emotional Intelligence to Physical Science and Kinesiology.