

We are pleased to announce our next whole school production.....



Show Dates-

We will be running 3 performances as follows at the
Mcmillan Theatre, Bridgwater:

Saturday 28th March 2026 7.00pm

Sunday 29th March 2026 1.00pm

Sunday 29th March 2026 7.00pm

This is a fantastic modern theatre which can seat an audience of up to 350. A lovely large stage with full professional technical facilities. The backstage area is spacious, which is perfect for our big cast! Our last show in 2024 was a huge success and all performers really enjoyed the opportunity to perform here!

Students must perform in **ALL 3** performances. Choreography is set and rehearsed with this in mind, and we cannot adapt this to accommodate students missing performances.

Rehearsals-

Rehearsals mostly take place in your weekly scheduled lessons. It is necessary to run some additional rehearsals to ensure our production can run smoothly from start to finish. They will take place on the following dates, please keep them free and we will confirm times and further information in due course:

Saturday 21st March- venue & schedule TBC

Sunday 22nd March- venue & schedule TBC

Saturday 28th March (daytime dress run at the theatre times TBC)

In the run up to the show it is very important that those participating attend their weekly classes to rehearse their show numbers. Please avoid missing sessions.

IMPORTANT- During the two weeks before the show, there may be additional classes you can attend for extra rehearsal as we often combine groups that would compliment each other on stage. You will be notified of these classes before February half term, so that you can make any necessary arrangements. There will be no additional charge for these particular sessions.

To provide a fair system for anyone participating in the show, any other extra sessions attended, prior to the two weeks before the show date, will be charged at the usual class rate.

Who can participate-

The following classes will be able to perform in our show:

Pre-School ballet

All ballet classes

All modern classes

All tap classes

All acro classes

Mini & Junior Popdance

Musical Theatre

(Classes that won't be learning show dances- toddlers, speech & drama students, festival performance groups & adult popdance)

How many dances will you be in-

We run over 80 classes per week and all students need the opportunity to appear in the show. We base the number of dances you perform on how many classes you are enrolled in. This also works best from a rehearsal point of view. So, for example,

- you attend 1 ballet class a week, you will perform 1 dance in all 3 shows
 - You attend 1 modern, 1 tap & 1 acro class a week, you will perform 3 dances in all 3 shows
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What are the costs involved-

We charge a fee for all performers that covers the following costs:

Hire of larger rehearsal venue prior to the show weekend

Costume hire (we provide all costumes; they remain the property of the school)

Props

Music costs & music licensing

Theatre Hire & rehearsal time in the theatre

Performer licensing

Insurance

Costs per performer will be as follows:

1 dance- £25.00

2 dances- £35.00

3 dances- £45.00

4 dances- £55.00

5 dances- £65.00

6 dances- £75.00

Costumes will be ordered and fitted as early as possible to ensure we have everything we need. We anticipate we will need over 350 costumes for our show! We need all production fees paid on time so that we can start making the necessary orders for costumes to arrive, be made and fitted ready for the show!

What you will need to provide-

Students will need to provide their own dance shoes & tights/socks. These will generally be items you would normally need as part of your class uniform or very simple requests. We just ask that you make sure these items are well fitting and in good condition. Not compulsory, but certainly a good investment is a flesh-coloured base leotard that can be worn under costumes. This makes students feel more comfortable when changing costumes. We will send out further details to everyone where they can be ordered from and will shop around for the best prices.

For hygiene purposes, all students should provide their own make-up and hair accessories. This is always kept to a minimal amount, but we do not encourage students to share make-up. Everything you will need to buy will be easily available from local shops. Full details will be sent out at a later date.

Optional show purchases-

It will be possible to purchase show T-shirts, Hoodies, Show photos & DVDs. None of these are compulsory to purchase but students often like to have them as a nice way to remember being part of the show. Details of all of these will be released soon with prices and how to purchase.

Safeguarding and council regulations-

We are bound by our local council's child performance regulations for any students up to and including year 11 at school. The regulations are in place to protect and ensure safe practice during rehearsals and performances. These must be adhered to by all productions that children participate in, with the exception of school plays/productions.

All rehearsals and performances will run according to the hours Somerset County Council deem suitable time periods for students to be in a theatre for their age. When details of rehearsal schedules are released, we will need students to leave the theatre during allocated breaks, this is to conform with the rules set by the council.

Only licensed chaperones can be present backstage, no parents under any circumstances. Parents will sign their students into the backstage area, at the stage door for rehearsals/performances and cannot accompany their child backstage. Chaperones are allocated small groups of children, in line with the council ratios, to assist throughout their time in the theatre.

The council requires relevant information for every child performer. This is detailed in the consent form and the necessary information is sent to the council ahead of the show. By completing the consent form you agree for this information to be passed on and you agree to comply with the regulations as outlined above.

Backstage, dressing rooms are arranged in line with council regulations regarding age and gender. Luckily the Mcmillan theatre has many additional rooms we hire at an additional cost to be able to accommodate the rules in place. There will obviously need to be some dressing room rules that we ask all performers to adhere to. This is to ensure no performers are put in a vulnerable or unsafe position whilst at the theatre. We need all performers & parents onboard and have an expectation that all performers will be respectful regarding our backstage rules.

Pre-school students-

In line with the information above, pre-school students will not remain at the theatre for long periods of time. They will be given specific drop-off and pick up times. They will perform near the beginning of the show and must be collected after their performance. They cannot stay backstage in our care until the end of the show, a parent or guardian will need to collect them. Please keep this in mind when booking tickets to watch the show. If parents are watching the show they would need to arrange for another family member/friend to collect the pre-school student at the correct time. Full details will follow in further information.

All other students will stay until the end of the show to participate in the finale and final bows. It is an important part of any show, and all other performers should experience it. Once settled, the students normally enjoy spending time in the backstage dressing rooms with their friends.

Ticket sales-

Tickets will only be available to purchase through the theatre box office. This is part of our hire agreement with them. All purchases must comply with the theatres terms & conditions which can be found on the theatre website. We will be in touch once they are on sale!

Consent and commitment to the production-

For our show to run smoothly, it is vital that everyone is clear about what they agree to and commit to. Please read the following carefully, these points are also repeated on the show consent form:

- Once you have agreed to participate, the expectation is that you will honour this commitment. We are already a long way into making plans for this production and it is disruptive to have performers “change their mind”
- You also agree to continue with your current classes and will have good attendance in order to prepare for the show. We want our show to be a huge success, giving all students a positive experience, this can only happen if you attend classes and make sure you are fully prepared for the performance.
- Performers fees are non-refundable under all circumstances. We calculate everyone's contribution towards rehearsals, costumes props etc based on approximate figures from our student database. Once we have your consent to participate, the correct fee must be paid.
- It is at the principal's discretion if a student cannot perform as the production approaches. This may be due to illness, injury and being under-prepared. We cannot chance putting other students at risk of harm due to these reasons. Your production fee would not be refunded in this instance as all necessary costumes and props would have already been purchased on your behalf.
- Performers **fees must be paid no later than 12th January 2026**, preferably before. If families with multiple performers in many dances want to pay in instalments this is fine, but the total balance should be paid by this date at the very latest.
- All performers must respond via the consent form we send out. This collects all the relevant data we need in one place. We will not accept responses via email or social media messages. Without the appropriate consent you cannot perform as we will not have all the correct information from you needed for the correct licensing to be put in place.
- All **consent forms must be completed and returned to us no later than 14th December 2025**. The sooner we have your consent the better, to continue planning the production.
- Parents/guardians must keep an eye on EMAILS for further details about our production. We will be sending out emails only, and as always prefer to be contacted by email only. Please remember to frequently check your junk box.
- The link to complete your consent to perform in our production can be found in the covering email. There will also be a private webpage on our website for all show information to be uploaded to. This will be useful for parents to reference back to information if they can't access or delete an email accidentally.