

Chapter 4

What To Do When Classes Begin: FAQs and Helpful Hints

Do I have to sign my child in when arriving to class? Yes. All students AND PARENTS are required to apply for a free membership to THEARC. When arriving, you must use your ID card to sign in at the security desk downstairs AND at The Washington School of Ballet's front desk. You must also sign out at both desks when leaving. If you or your child lose or repeatedly forget your THEARC ID, a service charge will be incurred for a replacement ID.

What are the expectations for my child's attendance? Attending class regularly is crucial for your child's continued progress. Students who miss too many classes or rehearsals risk having their performing privileges revoked or not being promoted to the next level at the end of the year. You may view your child's attendance record on the Parent Portal.

If your child is unable to participate in class for any reason, but is able to observe, please bring them in; they will benefit from watching. Students who are sick should stay home to rest and recover. If your child will miss class due to illness, a family emergency, or any other reason, **please call the office in advance at 202.889.8150.**

If my child misses a class, is there a make-up policy? Students in a class that has multiple sections (Pre-Ballet 1 through Level 2) may make up missed classes in another section of the same level. Students in Levels 3 and up may make up missed classes in the next level down, as follows:

- Level 3 – make up in Level 2
- Level 4 – make up in Level 3 OR Teen 3
- Level 5 – make up in Level 4
- Level 6 – make up in Level 5
- Teen 2 – make up in Teen 1
- Teen 3 – make up in Teen 2 OR Level 3

Students in Teen 1 should speak with their teacher to determine which class, if any, would be appropriate as a make-up class.

Make-up classes must be scheduled through the main office in advance and may be declined if space does not permit. Students are limited to 3 make-up classes per semester.

What if my child arrives late to class? If a child arrives after the first 10 minutes of class, he/she may be asked to sit and observe class. Arriving late affects not only your child, but also the teacher and the other students, because the flow of class is disrupted. Furthermore, your child misses very important warm-up exercises and is more vulnerable to injuries.

What should my child wear to class? Each class requires a different uniform. Please refer to our Uniform Requirements list. You may purchase a uniform for your child at Footlights in Silver Spring, MD or Alexandria, VA; at Washington Dancewear in District Heights, MD (no pointe shoes); in advance through the front desk (leotards for Levels 4 & up and Teens only); or online at discountdancesupply.com.

Is there a place for my child to change into his/her uniform? If your child cannot come to THEARC already dressed in his/her uniform, the facility includes a boys' locker room and a girls' locker room. Students should also **bring a lock** to protect their belongings in the locker room during class.

What if my child loses part of their uniform? Uniforms are your responsibility. Lost items, if not found, will need to be replaced at your expense. To help keep track of everything, make sure your child's name is written with permanent marker on each item. If something is accidentally left at THEARC, there is a