

## The Introduction of Online Dance Classes

The Lockdown came upon us very suddenly and we had very little time to plan for almost all of our pupils to be home-learning. Whilst the teachers were madly trying to find appropriate resources for a range of subjects across the curriculum, our linked dance school (the Laura Sandham School of Dance) were desperately trying to come up with a plan for delivering dance classes online.

After a few technical issues, Zoom classes were up and running and we had a programme which included cheer leading, street dance, ballet and a new addition, musical theatre. As well as being able to progress with their dance skills, the pupils have enjoyed seeing their friends through the screen and amazingly, they have managed to learn routines and even perform together! We hope to be able to share one of these with you soon. This has all been made possible thanks to Miss Laura and Miss Gemma whose determination and commitment, kept our pupils dancing!

We are about to start our next block of online classes as this is how dance is going to look for the foreseeable future. It would be great to see some more of our pupils get involved; school are currently subsidising all classes so cost is minimal. Please get in touch if your child would like to give it a try.

This is what our parents have to say:

“Despite my daughter being apprehensive (and me!) about how lockdown dancing would work, we decided to embrace the idea and see how it went. It's been great! It's given her the chance to still have a hobby during all the uncertainty, she has continued to progress, and has enjoyed seeing her dance mates over Zoom.

I highly recommend giving it a try, it's great to have day where something is scheduled for them.”

“I would just like to thank the school and Miss Gemma for the online dance classes that have been continued during lockdown. I can see that my daughter is continuing to improve in dance and confidence but not only that, I think it's so vital for learning to take and follow instructions in a fun way. To be able to watch her at home do the lessons is also fab as I get to see myself the interaction and fun she is having not just with Miss Gemma but to see the other children's faces on the screen at the same time.

Thank you so much! “

And a pupil's view:

“In musical theatre with Miss Laura, in the first lesson, I learnt more than I have ever learnt in any other musical theatre class. Miss Gemma is so fun in cheerleading and street dance and we aren't allowed to start without a big smile! Everything is explained very well.”

