

Wanda Kay's  
School of Dance



**2024-2025  
STUDENT  
HANDBOOK**

Great dancers, greater people.

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# ABOUT US

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Wanda Kay's School of Dance is a program committed to engaging students in becoming well-rounded, technically proficient dancers. With over 40 years of experience, Wanda Kay's has become a pillar of dance education in the New Bern community. Our skilled teachers share quality dance education while also creating a positive and relaxed environment for their students to step outside of their comfort zones and enjoy all the fun that dance has to offer.

While our students do receive superior technical training, they will also gain a sense of community, accountability, and strong character. Wanda Kay's prides itself on creating a close-knit group of dancers that respect and encourage each other throughout the course of their time with us.

Our teachers will work with students to improve technical and performance skills, the health of the mind and body, positive attitudes, as well as their desire to grow and develop as a dancer. We tailor our teaching styles to fit the needs of the individual student so that each student can progress to the best of their abilities during the year.

Students may be selected to participate in community performances throughout our regular season. In the past, Wanda Kay's has performed in MumFest, various Christmas Parades, New Bern Get Your Color On, and more. We believe that these performances not only build your dancer's performance ability but also teach them how important community outreach is!

If you have any questions after reading this handbook, please don't hesitate to contact us!

# OUR MISSION

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## *Our Mission*


At Wanda Kay's School of Dance our mission is to provide a quality dance education, while creating genuinely great people. Whether a dancer can execute one technically proficient pirouette or four, every dancer will leave our studio knowing they are kind, loved, good people, and will make a difference in the world around them.

Wanda Kay's is shaping the lives of young individuals by allowing them to build each other up and knowing that every child deserves the chance to dance no matter their ability or skill.

# DRESS CODE

Students must come to all of their classes in the appropriate attire. We require this of students so that our teachers can ensure that proper alignment is maintained and injuries are avoided. Such determinations are increasingly difficult to make when students are wearing loose, baggy clothing and with their hair not tied back. Students will be given 3 chances for dress code violations.

- 1st Violation: Verbal Warning
- 2nd Violation: Verbal and Written Warning
- 3rd Violation: Student sits out of class, parent email

<p><u>Cardinal and Glenburnie (Pre-K-Kindergarten) Combo, Groove with your Grownup</u></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Leotard or dance dress</li> <li>• Dancers may wear a dance skirt, dance shorts, or leggings over their leotard (tights highly encouraged)</li> <li>• Ballet and Tap shoes (Ballet only for GWYGU)</li> <li>• No dangly earrings, necklaces, or bracelets</li> <li>• Hair pulled back out of face</li> </ul>	<p><u>McCarthy and Bern Combo (1st-5th Grade)</u></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Leotard or Dance Tank</li> <li>• Dancers may wear dance skirts, dance shorts, or leggings over their leotard or WK shirt (tights highly encouraged)</li> <li>• Ballet, Tap, and Jazz Shoes</li> <li>• No dangly earrings, necklaces, or bracelets</li> <li>• Hair pulled back out of face</li> </ul>	<p><u>Trent and Neuse (6th-12th grade) Ballet, Jazz, and Tap</u></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Leotard or Dance Tank</li> <li>• Skirt, shorts, or leggings over their leotard or WK shirt (tights highly encouraged)</li> <li>• Ballet, Jazz, and Tap shoes</li> <li>• No dangly earrings, necklaces, or bracelets</li> <li>• Hair pulled back out of face</li> </ul>
<p><u>TotHop, Beginner &amp; Intermediate Hip-Hop</u></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Leotards, Dance Tank Tops, Dance Shorts, or Dance Leggings, and WK shirts are the preferred clothing options (tights highly encouraged)</li> <li>• Hip Hop sneakers</li> <li>• No dangly earrings, necklaces, or bracelets</li> <li>• Hair pulled back out of face</li> </ul>		<p><u>Lyrical &amp; Cheer Dance</u></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Leotards, Dance Tank Tops, Dance Shorts, or Dance Leggings, and WK shirts are the preferred clothing options (stirrup tights highly encouraged)</li> <li>• Half Sole Shoes</li> <li>• No dangly earrings, necklaces, or bracelets</li> <li>• Hair pulled back out of face</li> </ul>
<p><u>Buddy Hop</u></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Dancers may wear any athletic wear in which they feel comfortable</li> <li>• Sneakers are preferred</li> <li>• We ask if at all possible hair to be out of dancers faces</li> <li>• No dangly earrings, necklaces, or bracelets</li> </ul>	<p><u>Pointe</u></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Leotards, Dance Tank Tops, Dance Shorts, or Dance Leggings, and WK shirts are the preferred clothing options (tights highly encouraged)</li> <li>• Pointe Shoes</li> <li>• No dangly earrings, necklaces, or bracelets</li> <li>• Hair pulled back out of face</li> </ul>	<p><u>Adult Combo</u></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Leotards, Dance Tank Tops, Dance Shorts, or Dance Leggings, or WK shirts (tights highly encouraged)</li> <li>• Ballet and Tap shoes</li> <li>• No dangly earrings, necklaces, or bracelets</li> <li>• Hair pulled back out of face</li> </ul>

# CLASS ETIQUETTE

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While we want our students to have fun in class, we do expect non-disruptive behavior in classes. Our instructors reserve the right to excuse a student from class should they find the student is causing a disruption. Our instructors reserve the right to excuse dancers from all or parts of dances based on attitude and performance. Students are allowed to bring water into the classroom. Unless otherwise specified by Wanda Kay's staff, any other food or drink is not allowed as it could damage the flooring. Students found chewing gum during class will be asked to spit it out.

Street shoes should not be worn in the classroom as the gravel and debris could damage the flooring. All cell phones should be put away and on silent during class. Instructors reserve the right to confiscate a cell phone for the remainder of class if it is becoming a distraction. Wanda Kay's is proud of its ability to maintain a positive and supportive environment for its dancers. If a student is found not upholding these ideals, the instructor will contact parents in order to resolve this issue.

# TEACHING METHOD

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All students at Wanda Kay's are taught from a grade-specific syllabus designed by our teachers. Each student will be evaluated quarterly based on their given syllabus. All syllabi are taught in a plant/grow/mature method and will be used on grounds of early promotion if a teacher deems it beneficial.

In order for students to receive the best possible dance training, teachers need to give constructive criticism. These are typically referred to as corrections. These corrections are only given to ensure the safety and education of your dancer. It is imperative that students not take corrections as a remark on their ability or talent. Wanda Kay's believes that each dancer is gifted in their own way. Our instructors simply give corrections as a means of injury prevention and aesthetics.

Instructors are responsible for creating and demonstrating their own choreography. Each number is carefully created with each dancer's ability in mind. As such, instructors have the final authority and decision-making power over their choreography.

# TUITION & FEES

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At Wanda Kay's, we do our best to work with each family on their child's tuition. After 2020, we understand that extenuating circumstances do occur. We want to make payments as easy as possible for you and your family! Wanda Kay's is based on a minimum 34-hour instructional curriculum that is divided into monthly, quarterly, semiannual, or yearly payments paid from August-June. quarterly, semiannual, and yearly payments will receive a discount.

There is a \$45 registration fee due yearly upon registration. This fee is non-refundable.

All costume fees are divided into four monthly payments (September-December) and added to your monthly tuition. Costumes will come with hangers and garment bags. Costume fees are nonrefundable after November 1st. Costume payments are subject to a 10% late fee. Dancers are required to purchase additional tights, dance bras, and body liners (optional) through the studio in March.- December) and added to your monthly tuition. Costumes will come with hangers, tights, and garment bags.

- Groove with your Grownup and cardinal ballet only: \$80
- Pre-K Costume: \$110
- Glenburnie Costumes: \$120
- McCarthy and Bern Costumes: \$180
- Neuse, Trent, Tap, Hip Hop, Adult, and Lyrical Costumes: \$90 per class
- Troupe Costume (Due at registration): \$75
- Cheer Dance \$85, Poms (2 pairs) \$50

In even years, Wanda Kays will hold a Christmas performance and all dancers participating will be asked to purchase a leotard or shirt in a specific color.

A recital fee of \$75 per student (\$25 for each sibling) will be due on March 1st. This fee covers rental of the recital facility. Recital fees include a ticket voucher, recital t-shirt and recital download. Siblings will only receive additional t-shirt,.

Troupe aged classes will be an additional \$5 per month.

Classes	Price
1 Class	\$60
2 Classes	\$90
3 Classes	\$120
4 Classes	\$150
Unlimited Classes	\$170

## Payment Options:

- Cash
- Check: \$25 fee for returned checks
- Automatic Draft
- Credit Card

All fees are due on the first of each month. After the 10th, accounts are subject to a 10% late fee.

Dancers with ANY outstanding balances will not be allowed to perform in our recital.

You may opt out of recital by letting us know prior to the costume billing cycle.



# ATTENDANCE

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Wanda Kay's understands that many students love to dance as well as other hobbies! We strive to create a versatile program that allows students to pursue other interests in conjunction with their time enrolled in dance. We simply ask that dancers come into the classroom prepared and attentive.

As we have learned over the past two years, health is of the utmost importance. We kindly ask that you refrain from coming to dance if you or your child is feeling ill. While consistent attendance is important, we wouldn't want to risk getting the entire studio sick. Classes missed due to illness or for any other reason may be made up at the instructor's discretion.

Wanda Kay's believes wholeheartedly that dance is a team sport. Students and Instructors depend on each other to be present for choreography rehearsals/classes. When dancers are missing unnecessarily, they make it difficult for the rest of their class to progress in order to be prepared for the Recital. As a result, students with more than 4 absences may be excused from parts or whole routines.

# PARENT REQUIREMENTS

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## Drop Off/Pick Up

Dancers should be dropped off no earlier than 15 minutes prior to their first class and picked up no later than 15 minutes following their last class. Wanda Kay's is not responsible for any children left unattended before or after class. Please advise your dancers to wait patiently in the lobby prior to or after their classes. Dancers should not be outside without a parent. All preschool-aged students must be accompanied by an adult when on Wanda Kay's property. Parents are welcome to stay in the lobby during classes. Any siblings may not be left unattended on the Wanda Kay's premises.

## Accidents and Bathroom Breaks

Parents should make sure that their dancers has gone to the bathroom before class starts. We do have staff available to escort your child to the bathroom if they need to go during class. If you know that your child needs assistance using the restroom, we ask that you stay throughout the entirety of their class should they need help. If there is an accident while your dancer is in the studio, we will notify the parent to bring a change of clothes. If your dancer is in diapers, diapers MUST be clean at the start of class.

## Observation

While we know it is so exciting to see your dancers in class, Wanda Kay's does not allow parents to observe dancers in the classroom on a normal basis. Parents in the classroom can be incredibly distracting for our dancers. There will be a week during the year when parents are invited to observe their dancer's classes. This is the only instance in which parents are allowed to observe from the classroom. We do have observation cameras available in the lobby.

# EXTRA OPPORTUNITIES

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## Assistantships

Students may be invited by the Wanda Kay's staff to participate in assistantships. Staff members select these students based on their technical abilities as well as their attitude in classes. These students will be contacted over the summer and offered the ability to assist teachers in lower-level classes throughout the regular season. Candidates can give their preferences for times and classes, but the final choice for classes will be decided by the staff. Along with gaining dance education and responsibilities, students who accept assistantships will receive a 10% discount on their monthly tuition.

## Private Lessons

Students may seek out private lessons with any of our instructors. Private lessons are dependent on classroom and instructor availability. Private lessons are available as a means of rehearsal time for a solo, duet, trio, etc., or as technique intensives for dancers who wish to have more individualized instruction. Private lessons are 30 minutes at \$30/lesson and are scheduled at the discretion of the instructor and studio director. On average, solos are 6 private instructional lessons.

# IMPORTANT DATES

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We follow Craven County school's schedules for holiday and weather closures. If you are unsure if the studio is open, please check our Facebook page, call or text. We will update on closures via Remind and our Facebook. We do not close for teacher workdays.

- August 19, 2024: First Day of Classes
- September 2, 2024: Studio Closed (Labor Day)
- October 31, 2024: Studio Closed (Halloween)
- November 11, 2023: Studio Closed (Veterans Day)
- November 25-30, 2024: Studio Closed (Thanksgiving Break)
- December 6, 2024, Tentative Christmas Showcase
- December 23, 2024-January 12, 2025: Studio Closed (Christmas Break)
- January 15, 2025: Studio Closed (MLK Jr. Day)
- March 24-31, 2025: Studio Closed (Spring Break)
- April 19-22, 2025: Studio Closed (Easter Break)
- April 28- May 1, 2025: Tentative Picture Week
- May 26, 2025: Studio Closed (Memorial Day)
- June 2-6, 2025: Tentative Recital Week
- June 7, 2025: Tentative Recital

Our studio will have monthly spirit weeks. Studio spirit weeks are designed for dancers to express themselves in the studio. Please check your semester calendar to find out which weeks are designated and the theme for the week.

Wanda Kay's performs at many community events, as well as hosts in-studio events. Please check your semester calendar and monthly newsletters to find out what is happening in the studio that you do not want to miss! These dates include MumFest, parades, and more!

# COMMUNICATION

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Wanda Kay's follows the Craven County Schools calendar for holidays and weather related closures . We do not close for teacher workdays. If you are unsure, you can check our social media or contact the studio to see if classes will commence. We will strive to make sure all families are made aware of any changes in our normal schedule. Please do not contact instructors directly. Any classes missed due to weather closures may be made up at the instructor's discretion if minimum instructional hours are missed.

Our studio communicates via email, Remind101, and a private Facebook group. You can connect to the studio's Remind101 Group by texting "@wandaka" to 81010. Please ask a staff member to add you to our Facebook group. You are also welcome to contact us via Facebook, Instagram, or the studio phone (text or call).

You may reach any of the instructors by our studio emails:

- Office: [wandakaysschoolofdance@gmail.com](mailto:wandakaysschoolofdance@gmail.com) or [info@wkdancer.com](mailto:info@wkdancer.com)
- Mrs. Baylee, Owner, and Director: [baylee.wandakays@gmail.com](mailto:baylee.wandakays@gmail.com) or [baylee@wkdancer.com](mailto:baylee@wkdancer.com)
- Ms. Emily, Asst. Troupe Director: [emily.wandakays@gmail.com](mailto:emily.wandakays@gmail.com)
- Mrs. Ashley, Instructor: [ashley.wandakays@gmail.com](mailto:ashley.wandakays@gmail.com)

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