
STUDIO HANDBOOK



2023-2024

Dear Parent/Dancer:

2023-2024 kicks off our 25th Dance Season! Thank you for selecting our studio for your child's dance experience. Please note that this handbook contains vital information for the entire dance season! You will still receive additional informational letters regarding the upcoming events and activities. A dance year calendar is provided in this handbook. Please take the time to highlight the important dates. This handbook should be saved for future reference. If you have any questions, please do not hesitate to contact us. We greatly appreciate your support and business!



What we offer:

Our studio offers multiple programs of dance from the ages of 3 to 18. Classes are not designed strictly on an age level, but also by ability, maturity and class participation. At Dance Explosion, we strive to make dance FUN and educational. Our goal is to make dance enjoyable for you and your child. Thank you for choosing Dance Explosion!

STUDIO LOCATION:

Kammie's Cell: 515-249-1514

Kaeleigh's Cell: 660-215-8345

Website: www.dance-explosion.org

Instagram: [danceexplosion_dancers](https://www.instagram.com/danceexplosion_dancers)

Email: danceexplosiondancers@gmail.com

Teaching Staff:

Directors: Kammie Huntington

Kaeleigh Ballentine

Student Assistants: Kamdin Allen

Jackilyn Campbell-Mills

Brenna Cass

Brooklyn Mitchell

Kenna Funke

Kiara Stevens

Riley Keller

“The best preparation for tomorrow, is doing your best today.”

-H. JACKSON BROWN, JR.

REGISTRATION:

You can register for classes by creating a parent portal and emailing the Dance Explosion email of what classes you would like your dancer(s) to be in. If you need assistance in registering or have any questions, please reach out to Kammie, or Kaeleigh or send an email.

TUITION:

Pricing:

Ballet/Tap and beginners tumbling combo: \$40/month

Lyrical/Jazz/Tap/Clogging Combo: \$40/month

Solo/Duet/Trio/Small Group: \$38/month

Pointe/Tumbling Add-Ons: \$20/month

AUTO-PAYMENTS:

Dance families are encouraged to use our auto-pay feature to pay their monthly tuition. If families choose this option, monthly payments will be withdrawn on the 7th of each month. There will be a 3.5% convenience fee for all credit cards and 2% convenience fee for bank accounts. If payment is declined you will receive an email and will have 2 days to make your payment. If you choose to pay by cash or check that is still acceptable.

ONLINE ACCOUNTS/PARENT PORTAL:

Every family will be required to create an online account. This account allows parents to make payments, register for classes, obtain transaction records, and access their monthly payments and any other fees, as well as any other additional information. This link can be found on our website at the top under "Parent Portal"

LATE FEES:

At this time there will not be a late fee. However, if you are a month behind your child will be sitting and observing class instead of participating in class.

DANCE ATTIRE/DRESS CODE:

Girls: Girls can wear leotards, tank tops, t-shirts, crop tops, bra tops, spandex/dance shorts, ballet skirts, leggings.

Boys: Boys can wear any form of athletic shirt, athletic shorts.

Unacceptable Attire: baggy shirts/shorts, long sleeve shirts, jeans, dress pants, sweatpants, jackets

Hair & Accessories: Hair should be UP and out of the dancer's face at ALL times. Pony tails, buns, or braids. No excessive jewelry or hair accessories should be worn. Earrings are allowed, excluding hoops or dangling earrings.

Shoes: Street shoes are NOT allowed in the studio rooms. They need to be taken off before entering the dance rooms. All dancers should have some type of bag to transport dance shoes. Be sure your child's name is on the inside of each shoe and that their name is on their bags.

WAITING ROOM:

Parents are allowed to sit in the waiting room while their child is dancing. This area needs to stay clean at all times. Please make sure we are all doing our part by throwing away any trash you have and picking up after yourself. Occasionally, we will let parents into the studio room to watch their child's routine. We also like to have parents come in when a dancer is working on a step so the parents can also understand and help to work on at home. Dancers that arrive early or have a break need to sit in the waiting room as well until it is their turn.

STUDENT BEHAVIOR/EXPECTATIONS

At Dance Explosion, we ask that you PLEASE be respectful to yourself, to other dancers, to staff AND to our studio. If you are at the studio, but not dancing, you need to be in the waiting room or in the back room doing stretching, strengthening and conditioning. We ask that you act appropriately and not be disruptive to the dancers working hard in the studio rooms. You can work on homework, read, stretch, or eat a snack while in the waiting room. There will be NO running around. If a dancer is being disruptive we will pull that dancer to sit in one of the studio rooms so that we may observe them. If your dancer is still being disruptive, one of the staff members may then contact parents to come pick up the dancer. Please pick up ALL foods, wrappers, bottles and any other trash after yourself and throw them away. If you spill anything please clean it up. If you have a break and want to bring a light snack you may. NO FOOD is allowed in the studio rooms. WATER is the only thing allowed to bring for class. Any other drinks need to remain in the waiting room. NO CELL PHONES IN CLASS. If you would like to record a dance, please ask the teacher at the end of the class. The studio is not responsible for lost or stolen items. A lost and found basket will be in the main studio room. We recommend putting your dancers names on all items they bring to dance. Please be respectful to our bathrooms making sure you shut off the faucet and the light before you leave. NEVER throw away foreign items in the toilet. NO GUM ALLOWED IN THE STUDIO.

SICK/INJURY POLICY:

It is our recommendation that if your child was home sick and stayed home from school, that they do not come to dance. Please text, call or email us if your child will be absent from class. Missed classes cannot be made up or refunded.

If your child has an injury, not allowing them to dance, they are still required to come to their class and observe. Medications will not be administered by our staff, this includes aspirin. Please list ALL medical concerns in the parent portal as well so that we are aware. If a child must have an epinephrine auto injector (epi-pen) with them, it is the parents responsibility to always remain in the waiting room in case of an emergency. Dance Explosion is not liable for any serious medical assistance. If a child becomes injured during one of our dance/tumbling classes, we will do our best to accommodate the child's injury. In any case of a serious injury, parents will be notified through phone calls by staff.

CANCELLATIONS:

In the event of inclement weather, we will call/text confirming any changes to dance classes. Updates will also be posted on our social media pages. Our studio goes by the East Union Community Schools schedule. If school lets out early for the day or is canceled, we will not have dance.

COMPETITION TEAM:

If you are wanting to be on our competition team, you will have several competitions to choose from. Fees must be paid in advance for competitions. Sign up dates will come out in advance. We are bringing production to Dance Explosion! Anyone who wants to be on the competition team will be required to be apart of our production routine. Production is a dance that includes all ages and skill level. If you are wanting to be apart of the competition team you are required to be in this dance. If you do not want to do any other dances at competition but still want to be in the production routine you can, as long as you agree to do production at the chosen competitions. This dance is offered as a chance to bring dancers closer together and to represent Dance Explosion.

RECITAL PERFORMANCE:

The conclusion of our 2023-2024 dance season will be our 25th recital. We have two shows that occur the first full weekend in June. Rehearsals will be scheduled prior to the week of recital. Taking great pride in the progress of our dancers, we set to achieve the total experience and fulfillment of dance by presenting our dancers in an exciting and professional production. This year's work of discipline, determination and dedication rises to an exciting level as dancers feel the thrill of performing on the big stage. Dance recitals not only feature your child's abilities, but it also builds self-esteem and fosters an appreciation of the arts. All classes participate in the Recital except beginner tumbling classes. Recital is mandatory for all dancers. During recital, we want to give ALL of our dancers the same attention whether they are at the beginning or the end of the recital. We need you to be courteous to all the dancers and the staff. Please only leave the auditorium during intermission or at the end of recital.

STUDENT ASSISTANTS:

If you are interested in being a Student Assistant for the next dance season, please fill out the application on our website under the About, Student Assistants tab.

Assistant duties may include: lining children up, bathroom assistance, assisting with mats, helping with shoes, helping maintain cleanliness of the studio, demonstrating moves and providing encouragement. Requirements for assistants: 8+ years of dance experience, available to come weekly, reliable, and the ability to help teach, assist and demonstrate when asked.

BIRTHDAYS/PARTIES:

At Dance Explosion, we want our dancers to HAVE FUN! During the 2nd week of each month we will celebrate the dancers' birthdays in each class. If something comes up that 2nd week, we will reschedule it for the next week. Dancers can bring treats to share with their classmates for their birthday. We will also plan a fun activity to do at the end of each dance class. If there is more than one birthday being celebrated that is in the same class as your dancer, please coordinate with each other on what you are bringing for treats. Please make sure you let us know when your dancers' birthday is so we can plan. We will send out an email at the beginning of the month on the birthdays we will be celebrating.

We will also celebrate the holidays! Information about each of the holidays will be sent in an email along with each month's Newsletters.

With treats being provided for birthdays/holidays, it is IMPORTANT that we know of ANY food allergies. Please make a note of this in your parent portal account so that we have this on file when needed.

SUMMER:

TECHNIQUE & STRETCHING:

Improving technique and flexibility is vital to grow as a performer. It is important to keep up with your strengthening, conditioning, technique and flexibility during our off season to continue to grow as a dancer. Days and times will be determined later in the season. Please sign up on our website under the Summer Sessions tab.

BILL RILEY TALENT SEARCH:

If you are interested in doing Bill Riley shows, you will go to iowastatefair.org and sign up for the shows of your choice. It is your responsibility to have a copy of your music and your responsibility to practice. Remember, you are representing Dance Explosion! If you are wanting to schedule a practice, please send us an email or text.

COMPETITION ROUTINES:

We are encouraging you to start learning your competition routines in the summer to get a head start! Please try to have your songs picked out, if you need help let us know. Please email us if you are interested in learning your competition routines this summer!

PRODUCTION:

Production is a dance that includes all ages and skill level. If you are wanting to be apart of the competition team you are required to be in this dance. If you do not want to do any other dances at competition but still want to be in the production routine you can, as long as you agree to do production at the chosen competitions. This dance is offered as a chance to bring dancers closer together and to represent Dance Explosion. If you are interested, please sign up below.

DANCE EXPLOSION CALENDAR

SEPTEMBER:

5th - 2023-2024 Season Starts

11th-15th - Birthday Celebrations for August & September

18th - No DANCE

OCTOBER:

9th-13th - Birthday Celebrations

23rd - Wear Halloween Costumes to dance

24th - NO DANCE

30th - NO DANCE

31st - Wear Halloween Costumes to dance

NOVEMBER:

6th-10th - Birthday Celebrations

13th-17th - Thanksgiving Week (Bring something or someone you are thankful for)

22nd-24th - NO DANCE

27th - NO DANCE

29th - NO DANCE

DECEMBER:

4th-8th - Birthday Celebrations

18th-20th - Wear festive clothing!

21st-Jan. 3rd. - NO DANCE

JANUARY:

8th - Return to Dance

8th-12th - Birthday Celebrations

FEBRUARY:

5th-9th— Birthday Celebrations

12th-16th - Wear pink or red to dance in honor of Valentine's Day!

19th - NO DANCE

MARCH:

4th-8th - Birthday Celebrations

5th - NO DANCE

11th-15th- NO DANCE

16th-17th - Ovation Dance Competition

18th - NO DANCE

23rd-24th - Triple S Dance Competition

APRIL:

6th-7th - Dance Champs Competition *Required for Production

8th-12th - Birthday Celebrations

15th - NO DANCE

26th-28th - Thunderstruck Dance Competition *Required for Production

MAY:

6th-10th - Birthday Celebrations

29th - Dress Rehearsal @ 5:30 pm

Dance Pictures are TBD - either May 4th or May 11th. We will update this as soon as

we know.

JUNE:

1st - Recital @ 6 pm

2nd - Recital @ 1 pm