

# christian DANCE ALLIANCE

## FREQUENTLY ASKED QUESTIONS: CLASS LEVELING

### How do I know which class and level is right for my child?

Our goal in placing children in dance classes is to have every child in an age-appropriate and technically-appropriate level class where they will be comfortable but also challenged.

**Age is the first criteria** for class registration. If your child is **age 3-7**, she/he will not need a placement evaluation, and can immediately enroll in the appropriate class level based on age. If your child has never danced before, has a difficult time separating from you or following directions, we recommend defaulting to the lowest level that includes your child's age. For example, a 4-year-old who has never danced before should register for Dance Combo 1, but a 4-year-old who took Dance Combo 1 (or similar class) the previous year may register for Dance Combo 1 again or Dance Combo 2. Please keep in mind that it is acceptable and not unusual for a dancer to repeat the same level for more than one year.

**Technical ability is the second criteria** for class registration. Therefore, if your child is age 8+, and would like to enroll in our **Preparatory Division** (Age 8+, Level 1+), a placement evaluation is REQUIRED for new students (existing students please refer to your email for a placement notification). This evaluation is simply your child taking a class so our instructors can determine the appropriate level. Placement classes will be held by registration/appointment only. Please contact [info@christiandancealliance.com](mailto:info@christiandancealliance.com) to register. Classes in our **Recreational Division** do not require a placement evaluation. Simply register by age and dance style.

General guidelines for class placement are listed below. Please refer to the Preparatory Division Levels & Requirements document for more complete information about the requirements for each level/class.

### Class Type, Age Guidelines\*, Approximate Grade Guidelines\*

#### **Recreational Division:**

Dance Combo 1, age 3-4, Pre-School (60 minutes)  
 Dance Combo 2, age 4-5, Pre-K/K (60 minutes)  
 Pre-Ballet & Jazz 1, age 5-6, K/1<sup>st</sup> (60 minutes)  
 Pre-Ballet & Jazz 2, age 6-7, 1<sup>st</sup>/2<sup>nd</sup> (60 minutes)  
 Pre-Ballet & Jazz 3, age 7-9, 2<sup>nd</sup>/3<sup>rd</sup> (90 minutes)  
 Contemporary/Jazz, age 9-12 3<sup>rd</sup>-7<sup>th</sup> (60 minutes)  
 Contemporary/Jazz, age 13+ 7<sup>th</sup>-12<sup>th</sup> (60 minutes)

#### **Preparatory Division (Placement Required):**

Level 1 Ballet/Jazz Duo, 8+ (90 minutes)  
 Level 2-6 Ballet, 8+, 3<sup>rd</sup>+, (60-120 minutes)  
 Level 2 Jazz, 8+, 3<sup>rd</sup>+, (60 minutes)  
 Level 3-6 Contemporary, 10+, 5<sup>th</sup>+, (60-90 minutes)  
 Level 4-6 Modern, 12+, 7<sup>th</sup>+, (60-90 minutes)

\*Note: The age and grade guidelines listed above are *guidelines*, and may be modified at the discretion of the CDA Director. For example, depending on their ability students with exceptional technique may be placed in a higher age group. Likewise, students with less training or ability may be placed in a lower age group. These exceptions are few and are handled on a case-by-case basis. Please contact the CDA Director at [info@christiandancealliance.com](mailto:info@christiandancealliance.com) if you have any questions about the appropriate level for your child.

### When can I take a placement class?

Placement classes will be held by appointment only. Please contact the CDA Director at [info@christiandancealliance.com](mailto:info@christiandancealliance.com) or 513-374-0555 to discuss the most appropriate class for your child to try as her assessment. During the first two weeks of classes, we will assess every student's placement and make any necessary changes before Oct. 1.