



SUMMER 2017

Dear Applicant

Thank you for enquiring about our training courses. Below is all the information you require. In summary, the training options we are currently offering are:

Option 1: Intensive one day training in London

Ideal if you are short on time or live outside of London.

Option 2: Private tuition

You can determine how quickly you train and arrange lessons to suit your schedule. Skype lessons can also be arranged for those further away.

The training is geared towards the IDTA Associate as this is our most popular level for training but other levels can be catered for too – please ask for details. We are not yet offering the Level 4 diploma through the intensive training because in Freestyle the Associate remains in place as the first level of membership for the IDTA, however we will advise you during the training as to whether this option is better for you, and if so, how you can develop your training towards this examination instead (more details are below).

Please do read on and get in touch if you would like to book. For London courses, please do book early as our London courses are very popular and can sell out. For option 1 there is also an early booking offer (see the sections below for more information).

Many thanks

**Emma Weir
Dance Train**



Intensive Teacher Training Programmes working towards IDTA qualifications in Freestyle Dance

Devised and delivered by Emma Weir BA (Hons) PGCE, Fellow of the Freestyle Faculty, IDTA

Overview

The Freestyle syllabus derived from a background in Disco and incorporates influences from Jazz, Street / Hip Hop, Slow Dance, Modern, Lyrical, Contemporary and Musical Theatre. Freestyle is a subject in its own right but teachers with experience in any of these areas may find this subject a useful entry into teaching. As it is a core subject, teachers may be able to use this qualification to train students in other areas in which they have relevant experience. Upon completion of this course teachers will be eligible to work in private dance and theatre schools, set up their own classes, work in after school clubs and other educational workshops and can apply to the Academy as a freelance instructor for our selection of clubs, courses, classes and private lessons across London and the South East.

Aspects of the IDTA training include:

- Understanding the definitions relevant to dance including musicality, spatial awareness, posture, balance, direction, rhythmical expression and other related aspects of dance theory.
- An overview of the basic anatomy and physiology studies relevant to dance training and performance.
- Demonstrating and describing the main steps and movements covered in the Freestyle syllabus.
- Demonstrating and describing the main head, arm, hand and body positions covered in the Freestyle syllabus along with an interpretation of modern and contemporary influences on current trends.
- Devising routines suitable for various exam grades.
- Devising creative choreography to demonstrate the candidates own performance ability.
- Studying and investigating main areas of safety within the dance studio.
- Creating a suitable warm up routine, learning isolation and combination exercises for different parts of the body and compiling a suitable cool down routine.
- A basic approach to the theory of teaching and learning.
- Compiling a portfolio of work based on previous dance and teaching experience.

Training is offered at four levels, depending on your stage of development:

Pre-Associate Level – ideal for ages 16-18. This certificate allows younger dancers to take their first step towards teaching and would be suitable for those who assist teachers in their own dance classes or who have been dance captains at school. It enables dancers to teach under the supervision of a qualified teacher and covers much of the groundwork for the Associate but means that candidates can retain their amateur status for exams and competitions until such time as they are old enough and ready to take the full Associate.

Associate – for ages 17 upwards. **This is the most useful level for many teachers, and therefore our most popular course.** Please note that you can take the Associate qualification from age 17 but we recommend that younger candidates who may have less experience take the Pre-Associate training first. It is not essential for older candidates to take the Pre-Associate qualification first as this work will be covered within the training. This qualification is the first professional teaching certificate which entitles candidates to teach alone, run their own classes and even set up

their own school. Candidates can then enter their own students for amateur exams and competitions, have access to full IDTA member benefits (see below) and progress to other qualifications within the Association if desired.

Licentiate – for age 21 upwards with 2 years of IDTA teaching experience. This is an advanced certificate that can be taken after the Associate for those who wish to progress to a higher level of teaching with the IDTA. It can be a stepping stone towards Fellowship, which is required to become an examiner, or to enable candidates to begin training professionals themselves. For those who are involved in competitions, the Licentiate qualification allows candidates to adjudicate at a higher level.

Fellowship – for those who have held a Licentiate qualification for a minimum of a year. This is the highest level of qualification available within each subject and we offer this on a private tuition basis only.

Option 1: Weekend intensive training in London

London intensive courses usually involve two shorter consecutive days of training, however our NEW format involves one longer day of attendance to enable our attendees to fit this in around work and other commitments. The cost of the training also includes a pre course pack sent six weeks before the course in order for students to prepare fully and begin their work in advance of the training date, plus two follow up sessions in the form of a tutorial and mock exam which are booked as one-to-one sessions at your convenience.

These take place in London but the tutorial can be replaced by distance learning support (phone / Skype / email) if it is difficult for you to come to London. If this option doesn't suit you and you are keen to pass the exam as soon as possible, we also offer **private tuition** (more details further down).

Level	Structure	Date	Location	Price
Associate (age 17 upwards)	1, Pre-course preparation pack 2, Two intensive training days in London	Sat 1 st and Sun 2 nd July 2017	William Morris Meeting Rooms, Wimbledon	£345.00 <i>See below for early booking offer.</i>
Licentiate material will also be offered upon request – ask for details about this	3, A follow up tutorial in person or via Skype / distance learning 4, A mock exam in person or via Skype	10.30am-3.30pm		

Limited early booking offer for the above course – pay the reduced course price of just £295.00 if you book a place for July 2017 and pay in full by 8th May 2017.

After that date, the full price of £345.00 applies and can be paid in full or in two halves. As with all our courses, the exam is booked and paid for separately (see exam fees for details).

This course features a two day training session covering all topics for the IDTA Associate and also includes the follow up private tutorial or distance learning support to be arranged at mutual convenience to check progress and assist with study. More experienced teachers who are interested in the Licentiate qualification will also have the opportunity to cover this material alongside the Associate.

Input will be required from candidates in their own time to compile a portfolio, devise choreographic routines and revise the theory aspects of the exam. It is up to the candidate as to how quickly they work through this, depending on their own circumstances (previous knowledge, time available for study etc) and then when they are ready they can return, firstly for a one-to-one mock exam (included) and then the final exam (only arranged and paid for once you are ready).

Scroll down or see overleaf for private tuition packages.

Option 2: Private Tuition

If you are unable to attend the course as detailed then you may wish to consider private tuition which is booked at your convenience and can take place at one of our London venues or potentially at other spaces subject to arrangement. When training privately, you may find you need less tuition time than on the course and it can suit those who prefer to complete their work individually and learn at their own pace.

Private lessons cost £54.00 per hour if booked 'pay as you go' (this includes exclusive use of a London based studio space or training venue) or we recommend booking a block of six lessons plus a mock exam for £315.00, working out at just £45.00 per session. Most people find that six sessions are enough (providing they put the work into their studying between sessions) but if you take this package, any additional lessons can be booked at just £45.00 per hour. See the package details below:

Level	Structure	Date	Location	Price
Associate (age 18 upwards) Other levels accommodated by request – contact us for details	Six hours of private tuition (usually arranged as 6 x 1 hour or 3 x 2 hour blocks but can be flexible) plus a mock exam.	At your convenience	Choice of London venues	£315.00

Licentiate and Fellowship training is also offered by private tuition and depending on previous experience, candidates may not need to book a package and may prefer just to book a few hourly lessons – ask for details.

Private tuition can be an excellent way for candidates of all levels to train at your own convenience – one of our candidates only had a short break between performance contracts and took a block of private tuition in the summer holidays, passing her exam with 98% before the end of her contract. Contact emma@ukdancenetwork.co.uk for more information and to check availability.

Private tuition can be broken down into one or two hour lessons, booked as frequently as suits your schedule, and can be a good flexible approach if you can't make one of our training weekends. Also, those who have attended courses and wish to book some additional lessons other than those included, can also do this at a reduced rate of £45.00 per hour. This cost applies to our London venues only.

Additional Costs and Exam Fees

The costs given on the previous page cover the training as detailed – the face to face training and any distance learning / tutorials offered on your particular course, plus the mock exam. This is one of the best value teaching courses available as we believe in charging a fair price. We do not insist on candidates over 18 taking the Pre-Associate exam (although this is recommended for younger students) nor do we insist on candidates taking part in unpaid work experience, unlike some other companies do, although the option is there for those who would like the experience.

We don't include the cost of the exam in the initial fees as we know that some people may want to break it up and may not want to have the exam straightaway – indeed some candidates may decide not to proceed with the exam at all. Therefore we have left it as optional. Your trainer Emma Weir will not enter you for the exam until you successfully pass a mock exam and prove that you are ready, because if a candidate fails the exam, their fee is lost and it can dent confidence. Emma has an excellent record of training and she will advise you when you are ready and then book an exam session at a mutually convenient date and venue. Those who are able and willing to put the time in to prepare should find no delay in being able to do the exam as soon as they are ready.

The exam costs vary depending on the level taken. The price we charge is the IDTA fee plus a relevant floor fee (studio hire and overheads of the day) and we are proud to keep our costs low on this too although we have had to increase our costs this year as the IDTA extended the length of the exam duration. This cost reflects the exclusive use of a London based studio including waiting areas, refreshments and staffing. IDTA exam fees are revised each September so below are the 2016/17 prices but you may find these prices increase slightly for 2017/18. **Remember that these fees below are only charged if and when you decide you are ready to take the final exam.**

Level	Exam Length	IDTA Fee (2016/17)	Floor Fee	Total
Student/Pre-Associate	45 minutes	£76.00	£49.00	£125.00
Associate	1 hr 30 minutes	£117.00	£78.00	£195.00
Licentiate	1 hr 45 minutes	£134.00	£81.00	£215.00

With all the training options you only have to pay for the course price up front and then add on the exam when you are ready, making this cost even more accessible.

You will need to purchase the textbooks *Freestyle Dance* and *Advanced Freestyle*, both by Anna Jones, which are available from the IDTA website or can be ordered from bookshops and cost approximately £18-20.00 each or can be bought together from the IDTA for £30.00. The IDTA website is usually the quickest and ensures you have the most up to date version of the books.

After completing the Associate exam, candidates will be invited to become a member of the Association for which there is a small annual fee. Successful candidates are encouraged to maintain their annual membership in order to make full use of the IDTA services and benefits, but you are not 'locked in' to any scheme or obligations. Please see the IDTA website www.idta.co.uk for the advantages of completing this teacher training and see our website www.teachingdance.co.uk for our FAQ's. Further professional fees such as insurance, DBS checks and music licenses etc will be the candidates own responsibility but do note that if you are working as a self employed professional teacher that such expenses are tax deductible as legitimate professional expenditure.

In April 2016, the IDTA introduced a new Level 4 certificate in dance teaching which requires additional written work and preparation. In Freestyle however, this exam is currently optional and the Associate format remains in place for new members to qualify with the association and obtain full membership so there is no obligation to take the new certificate either as well as or instead of the Associate. Therefore we continue to offer the Associate training in Freestyle and can advise candidates who would like to do the Level 4 qualification for their own development in future – existing Associates can apply to submit the additional work at a later date if they wish but there is no need to do so.

The Venues

We use a number of venues across London for the courses, tutorials, private tuition, mock exams and the exams themselves. Having access to a variety of venues including schools, colleges, studios and community halls mean we can offer a choice for candidates and offer greater availability.

The William Morris Meeting Rooms, Wimbledon

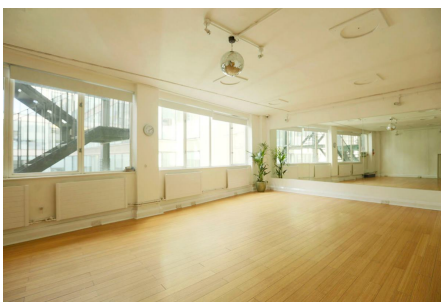
Since 2015 this has been our preferred training venue with a range of training rooms and studio spaces that have been recently refurbished. Close to Wimbledon mainline rail station and also the tube and bus routes, this venue offers the transport links of London but without the hassle of the more central London venues (lack of parking, congestion charge etc). It also offers kitchen facilities for refreshment breaks, ideal for longer training days.

Haverstock School, Camden

Previously our weekend training venue, this centre is now an option for private tuition, tutorials and mock exams.

Templeton House Studios, Moorgate and Crossway Church Hall, Elephant & Castle

These well located venues offer a number of spaces available to book for private lessons, tutorials and mock exams.



From left to right, Templeton House, Haverstock School, William Morris Meeting Rooms

Background – a note from the trainer, Emma Weir

I am a Fellow of the IDTA and have been managing my own Dance Academy full time for over twelve years and teaching part time for more than fifteen years overall. In that time I have trained many professionals on both a one-to-one basis and through these courses, and they have all qualified with a minimum of 80%, with several of them additionally being put forward for scholarships and awards due to their particularly exceptional percentages (up to 98%) as indeed I myself was when I took my own Associate. Since then I have progressed to the level of Fellow within the Faculty and succeeded in many other teaching exams – the full list for your information is available on my website www.ukdancenetwork.co.uk in the 'About Us' section.

Candidates I have trained come from a wide range of backgrounds with dance styles ranging from Ballet to Bollywood. Some were students of mine who had grown up with the IDTA syllabus and wanted to make the natural progression into teaching. Others had no prior knowledge of the IDTA but had come from a contemporary dance background or had a dance degree but not one that focussed on teaching. Others were ex-performers or had a background in fitness / dance exercise or cheerleading.

This course will not teach you how to dance, nor is it the end of everything you will ever need to know (as a teacher, I feel it is important to keep developing your own knowledge) but it is an excellent way to open doors for you. With this qualification you can start up a class (or even a school) that works towards IDTA exams and train your own students for medal tests and competitions. You may also find teaching work with another IDTA school or find that the member CRB and insurance schemes (sometimes hard to obtain when unqualified) enable you to teach after school clubs or with community dance organisations.

As listed on the first page, we will cover basic steps and movements that are not just useful for Freestyle (Disco) but are also common to street dance and some commercial jazz styles as well as musical theatre, cheerleading, dance exercise and contemporary styles. Freestyle is a unique syllabus as you can apply it to your preferred style of dance and the open choreography options in the exam mean you can be creative as well as learning.

Having an internationally recognised qualification can open doors and even if you eventually want to qualify in other areas of dance, this can be an advantage. For example, if you take another IDTA qualification you may find that the portfolio and anatomy sections of this exam can be used again in many of them, for example the Association also offers a Street Dance Associate and if candidates go on to take this after Freestyle they can do a shorter exam as they will have already done much of the ground work. Those with a fitness background could also go on to take the Dance Exercise Diploma.

With an IDTA Associate you can also apply to take the Foundation Degree in Dance Teaching at Bucks New University. This is a route that I took myself and from there took the top-year to obtain a BA (Hons) in Professional Dance Development. This qualification enabled me to go on to study for a PGCE and gain professional teacher status, allowing me to teach dance in adult education institutes and colleges. The IDTA Freestyle Associate was my first step towards a dance teaching career – and I haven't looked back!



Previous delegates benefiting from our small group training approach.

FAQ's

Q. I have seen this course advertised for a much greater price with other organisations, does this mean that their qualification is worth more?

A. If you are comparing courses for the IDTA Freestyle Associate then the qualification is the same whichever way you choose to train for it. We choose to keep our costs low as we know that starting out as a dance teacher can be a daunting prospect and there are other expenses such as your insurance and DBS to pay for - and we can afford to do this as we have great arrangements with our venues and a flexible approach to the way the training is provided. Remember that we don't charge for the exam up front as we know that not everyone wants to take it straightaway so you will add that on when you're ready but all of this is laid out in the pack. Our results speak for themselves in terms of the quality of training offered.

Q. Will I be able to teach in schools with this qualification?

A. This qualification will NOT give you QTS (qualified teacher status to teach curriculum in state schools) but with this certificate and a CRB (which can be arranged through the IDTA scheme once you are qualified) you will be able to work in schools running after school clubs, lunchtime / breakfast clubs, activity days, workshops, show choreography and other non-curriculum activities. You will also be able to run your own private activities - classes, private lessons etc - or set up your own dance school if you wish.

Q. Why Freestyle? Is it just an easy option?

In a word - no! Freestyle suits this type of learning because of the creative element to the dance. You can devise your own choreography and there is far less set work to learn than with ballet or tap or even ballroom etc. Because of its 'open' nature it also suits dancers of many backgrounds - our Associate trainees have included people from backgrounds as diverse as Bollywood, contemporary, ballet, Afro-Brazilian, dance fitness and ballroom dancing. However the syllabus should not be seen as an 'easy option' as it will cover musicality, safety, anatomy, class structure, syllabus work, exercises and the art of choreography. These are useful principles for dancers of all techniques.

Q. What are the benefits of an IDTA qualification?

A. It is internationally recognised and the association is one of the largest in the world. Members have many benefits such as free seminars, publications and discounted rates to other events and products. Once qualified you will be able to train candidates for IDTA awards and hold medal tests and you will be eligible to apply for your liability insurance and DBS through their member schemes.

Q. Surely you can't train anyone to be a dance teacher in such a short space of time?

A. Of course we can't train just anyone. On application we will discuss your dance background and ensure that this course is right for you. We will expect that you have a dance background and a serious commitment to teaching. In the intensive sessions we will guide you through all you need to study for the exam but you will need to put in the time outside of these sessions to prepare routines, revise and compile a portfolio. You can then return to take your exam when you are ready - and how quickly you do that will be up to you - how confident you are and how much time you can put in to prepare. In recent courses we have added some follow up private tuition and a mock exam in order to help build confidence, check progress and ask for help with the independent study, which we believe is beneficial.



How To Book

A separate application form will have been sent to you along with this document. You can apply electronically or by post. **To apply electronically**, please email the completed form back and pay by one of the online options stated on the form. **To apply by post** please send a hard copy of the completed form along with a cheque to the address stated on the form. Cheques should be made payable to Emma's Academy of Dance & Drama.

The full course payment must be paid up front in order to guarantee a place on the course. The final date that payments can be accepted for a London course is usually ten days before each course starts but it is advisable to book as soon as possible as places are limited and are likely to all be filled. Previous groups have been sold out, with many participants booking straightaway.

We are offering an early booking discount on our July intensive course – book and pay in full by 8th May and pay the just £295.00 – saving £45.00.

You may also hold your place by paying 50% now and the remaining half by the deadline but you will not be eligible for the discount. We cannot hold a place until at least part-payment has been made and the places are non transferrable.

All payments must be settled by the deadline of Wednesday 21st June 2017.

Finally...

Undecided? Visit www.teachingdance.co.uk and read the page titled ***Testimonials – Our Alumni*** to see details of just some of the professional dance teachers we have trained and guided in the past. Do also 'like' our Facebook page www.facebook.com/dancetraineducation

In 2011, Ruth Kestenbaum attended one of our courses and passed with Honours, attaining 97%. She was nominated by her examiner for the prestigious John Dilworth scholarship, which she went on to win, and was presented with by the IDTA President at the annual congress in 2012. Another candidate last year passed with 98% overall and all candidates in our last five exam sessions attained 90% or higher, with every candidate that has come through this process all attaining 80% or higher. Since then we have had more John Dilworth nominees and other success stories as new teachers grow their businesses by expanding the type of classes they can offer with the IDTA. **UPDATE FOR 2016 – OUR STUDENT HANNAH MOTT WON THE ARTHUR GALLAGHER PRIZE FOR FREESTYLE, BEING THE HIGHEST RATED LICENTIATE IN THAT GENRE THIS YEAR!**

This will be an important investment of time and money for you, and you will want to get it right. If you have any queries at all then please email the address below and Emma will personally reply to advise you on your options. *Please note that Emma is still a working teacher herself and so is not at her desk around the clock but she will endeavour to get back to you as soon as possible.*

Once booked, you will be sent a confirmation email to acknowledge payment and hold your place on the course. Nearer the course start time you will be sent a further email which outlines suggestions on what to wear, bring and prepare. If you have any questions in the meantime please contact us at emma@ukdancenetwork.co.uk