

# ROYAL BALLET SCHOOL

AFFILIATE TRAINING AND ASSESSMENT PROGRAMME

## THE ROYAL BALLET SCHOOL'S AFFILIATE TRAINING AND ASSESSMENT PROGRAMME (ATAP)

### GENERAL INFORMATION

The Ballet School is one of only a handful of dance schools in the UK registered to offer The Royal Ballet School's Affiliate Training and Assessment Programme (ATAP). ATAP extends The Royal Ballet School's System of Training to the students of affiliated dance teachers. Rather than just learning dance technique, such as with the RAD\* syllabus, ATAP students also learn to create and appreciate classical ballet, with opportunities to choreograph and review dance works. This ensures a more holistic approach to the learning of dance, with students having access to The Royal Ballet's ethos and expertise. As with other assessments within The Ballet School, students are entered for the relevant ATAP Level when they have reached the required standard of learning. For more detailed information on ATAP, please follow the links below:

<https://youtu.be/46ycb52J9S0>

<https://youtu.be/PvXMs5OnBrY>

Both videos feature The Ballet School's Director and Principal, Vanessa Donkin along with students of The Ballet School. We are very proud to have been invited by The Royal Ballet School to be involved in the launch, filming of content and on-going development of this innovative Programme.

### CLASS AND ASSESSMENT STRUCTURE

The RAD has ten levels (Pre-Primary, Primary, Grades 1-8), ATAP has six levels. As a result, the length of study at each ATAP level will be slightly longer than each RAD level, due to the extra learning of Repertoire and Choreography. The performance expectation and criteria do not equate RAD Grade to ATAP Level. For a quick overview of the relationship between RAD Grades and ATAP Levels please see below:

RAD GRADE	EQUIVALENT ATAP LEVEL
Pre-Primary - Primary	Level 1
Grade 1 - Grade 2	Level 2
Grade 3 - Grade 4	Level 3
Grade 5 - Grade 6	Level 4
Grade 7	Level 5
Grade 8+	Level 6

At each level students study ballet vocabulary and a set ballet as well as other repertoire of the teacher's choice. At the end of the course of study (approximately two years) students have the opportunity to show what they have learned in the form of an assessment. The assessment class content is devised by the teacher (incorporating selected vocabulary as advised by The Royal Ballet School) and a creative section. For Levels 1 – 2 this will be a short piece inspired by the repertoire they have been studying which is performed as a group. Level 3 present their own choreography in the form of a short solo again inspired by the repertoire they have been studying or a theme/concept relating to it. They will also be asked to provide a presentation or piece of writing/artwork or answer a series of questions based on the ballet(s) they have studied. This is marked internally but contributes to their overall score.

For children wishing to be entered for ATAP assessments and/or RAD exams it is necessary to attend two ballet classes a week from Level 2 upwards in order to meet the breadth and depth of content. For those that continue with one class per week, Class Awards (RAD)/ Progress Awards (ATAP) are available.

We are very excited to offer this new and exciting programme to the students of The Ballet School having seen the immense benefits to those who have participated this year.

\*Royal Academy of Dance (RAD) is not the Royal Ballet School – the RAD is a separate awarding body. The two are completely different organisations.