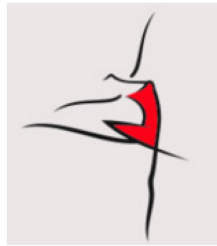




# Cherrybrook Technology High School

Creative and Performing Arts Department



## Dance Ensembles Policies 2025

The contents of this booklet will provide students, parents, Directors and Supervising Teachers with information about CTHS Dance Ensembles, school procedures, expectations and fees. A copy of this booklet is located on the school website: <https://cths.nsw.edu.au>

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# Dance Ensembles Program

A vital and integral part of life at Cherrybrook Technology High School

## Aim

The Dance Ensembles Program is a diverse extracurricular program, which aims to provide the opportunity for CTHS students of mixed dance abilities, to enhance their dance skills while developing and encouraging a love of dance amongst their peers.

## Goals

- Achieve success within the ensembles by developing student dedication.
- Encourage students to seek assistance and support from their Directors/Supervisors.
- Increase the profile of Dance within the CTHS community.
- Provide performance opportunities for all ensemble groups.
- Identify appropriate events for public performances, internally and externally.
- Organise ensemble workshops
- Develop all roles within the ensemble groups so extracurricular Dance may flourish at CTHS.

## Contacts






Supervising Teachers can be contacted during school hours on 9484 2144.

- Ms Lisa Holt, Ensembles Coordinator: [lisa.holt3@det.nsw.edu.au](mailto:lisa.holt3@det.nsw.edu.au)
- Mrs Lara Palmer, Ensembles Administrator: [lara.palmer1@det.nsw.edu.au](mailto:lara.palmer1@det.nsw.edu.au)

## Registration / Membership Agreement

- Students wishing to participate in a Dance Ensemble group, must first **register** prior to attending rehearsals.
- If your child's name is not printed on the roll for a particular group, they have not registered.
- This contract outlines the student's, as well as the parent's/carer's commitment and expectations. **Students must read it carefully.** If a student fails to follow the guidelines listed in the contract they may be asked to leave the Dance Ensembles Program.
- If you would like your child to participate in the Dance Ensembles Program, a link to the Google form Membership Agreement will be emailed to you.

## Dance Ensemble Directors

	NAME	ROLL
	Lisa Holt	Dance Ensemble Coordinator
	Madeline Losco	Stage 4 and 5 Cheer - Redbacks
	Emma ODonovan	Stage 4 and 5 Cheer - Scorpions
	Hanna Sano	Representative Dance Group
	Elise McGowan	Stage 4 Dance

## Rehearsals

- Rehearsals are held before and after school. Students must be punctual and ready to commence by the scheduled time. **This means arriving ten to fifteen minutes prior to rehearsal commencement time.** This ensures a smooth and productive session, without the disruption of late arrivals.
- If you are unable to attend a rehearsal or performance, please email Lara Palmer via [lara.palmer1@det.nsw.edu.au](mailto:lara.palmer1@det.nsw.edu.au), either on the day or prior to the day, if you know in advance.
- **Unexplained lateness may result in a lunchtime detention.** If you have a genuine reason for arriving late to rehearsal, you must provide a signed note from your parent/carer.
- Morning rehearsals conclude approximately five minutes before the roll call bell and afternoon rehearsals last between 60 and 90 minutes.
- Students must cooperate and be attentive during rehearsals and come equipped with all necessary equipment/props. At the conclusion, the room must be tidy and equipment/props returned to the appropriate locations.
- For Stage 4 Ensemble, as rehearsals run for the whole length of lunch, we encourage students to bring a packed lunch from home, as there isn't enough time to purchase lunch from the canteen due to long queues. Students are given time to eat their lunch at the start or end of each rehearsal.

## Rehearsal Times and Locations

Ensemble	Day	Time	Location	Director
Stage 4 & 5 Cheer Team – Redbacks	Tuesday	7:30am – 8:25am	C1.1	Madeline Losco
Stage 4 & 5 Cheer Team – Scorpions	Wednesday	7:30am – 8:25am	C1.1	Emma O'Donovan
Representative Dance Group	Thursday	7:30am – 8:25am	C1.1	Hanna Sano
Stage 4 Dance Ensemble	Friday	7:30am – 8:25am	C1.1	Elise McGowan

## Fees

- Fees are invoiced by the **term** and payments are due by **Week 6** of each term.
- Fees must be settled as above to enable us to employ Directors for the various ensembles.
- Payments can be made online via the School Bytes Student Finance system.
- Alternatively, payments can be made via cash, credit card or EFTPOS at the student window. Place cash payments in an envelope, with your child's full name and year printed clearly on the front.
- **Dance Ensembles is an extracurricular program. Therefore, failure to pay fees will result in your child being excluded from the Dance Ensembles Program.**
- Membership in more than one Dance Ensemble will entitle a student to a 20% discount for the second and subsequent ensembles.
- **If a student leaves a Dance Ensemble during a term without written parent/carer notification, by emailing [lara.palmer1@det.nsw.edu.au](mailto:lara.palmer1@det.nsw.edu.au), they will be invoiced for the entire term.**

Ensemble	Fees
Stage 4 & 5 Cheer Team	\$110 per Term (additional competition fees apply)
Stage 4 Dance Ensemble	\$100 per Term (additional competition fees apply)
Representative Dance Group	\$100 per Term (additional competition fees apply)

Please be advised that the above fee prices are subject to change.

## Membership Resignation

- If students wish to discontinue their membership in an ensemble, we require **written** parent/carer notification, by emailing [lara.palmer1@det.nsw.edu.au](mailto:lara.palmer1@det.nsw.edu.au).

## Members' Responsibilities and Attendance

- Attendance at rehearsals and performances is essential so all sections of the ensemble are complete. Without 100% attendance rehearsals and performances are compromised.
- Year 11 and 12 students are required to attend all rehearsals, workshops, performances etc, during their assessment exam periods (AP), unless they have an exam on the day of the event.
- Students must be courteous, patient, attentive, cooperative, reliable, suitably attired, enthusiastic and keen to learn, at all times.
- Achieving a successful ensemble requires personal commitment and team effort.
- Ensure all ensemble fees are paid by the required date (payment plans, when necessary, can be organised by phoning the school).
- Seek assistance/clarification from your Ensemble Director or Ms Holt, with any difficulties which may arise.
- Students are expected to attend ensemble performances at community events, competitions, and festivals (inside and outside of school hours).
- The Director is solely in charge of the group therefore, students must be respectful of all instructions.
- Students are expected to setup and dismantle their own equipment/props and help transport general equipment/props to and from performances.
- Students are to be available to perform with sufficient notice.
- Students must be equally committed to each ensemble.

## Absentees

- If you are unable to attend a rehearsal or performance, please **email** Lara Palmer via [lara.palmer1@det.nsw.edu.au](mailto:lara.palmer1@det.nsw.edu.au), either on the day or prior to the day, if you know in advance.
- A monitoring system for absences is in place. If a student is absent from rehearsal for three weeks in a row, they will be asked to provide an explanation to Ms Holt.
- Being absent does **NOT** constitute a reduction in fees.
- School excursions which run on the same day, but not during the rehearsal time of an ensemble, **do not** count as a valid reason **not** to attend. All rehearsals will be held unless notified by email (including excursions, athletics/swimming carnivals).

## Supervising Teachers

- Supervising teachers are members of the CTHS Creative Arts staff and will liaise with the Ensemble Director.
- Supervising teachers will attend rehearsals periodically and monitor the use and purchase of Dance equipment/props.
- Supervising teachers will ensure school procedure/documentation for excursions is followed.
- All teachers must comply with the NSW Department of Education's regulations regarding child protection.

## Ensemble Directors

- Ensemble Directors are experienced Dance Directors who instruct Dance to their designated ensemble(s).
- Ensemble Directors incorporate new ideas, thus ensuring rehearsals are a positive learning experience.
- Ensemble Directors ensure students practise and meet their commitments to their group.
- Ensemble Directors maintain student rolls, which are kept in the main staffroom. All absentees will be followed up by Ms Holt.
- Ensemble Directors identify performance opportunities throughout the year, ranging from school assemblies to public venues and festivals.
- Ensemble Directors assist with the annual MADD Concert and Awards Ceremonies, which take place in the MPC. It is typical for all ensembles to perform at these events.
- All Ensemble Directors must comply with the NSW Department of Education's regulations regarding child protection.

## Excursions

- Excursions must be approved by the CTHS Executive.
- Directors must provide the Supervising Teacher with full details of the excursion which includes transportation, costs, performance attire, lunch and morning tea requirements, number attending, time/date/location and contact numbers in event of emergency.
- Excursions require the issuing of a note which must be completed, signed by a parent/carer and returned to school by the required date.
- Excursions will not be allowed to go ahead without the correct documentation being completed by teachers, Directors and students.

## Evaluation and Feedback

- It is essential to evaluate each performance and look at what was successful and what required improvement.
- Communication in all ensembles is direct and problem areas must be addressed by the Director and not overlooked.
- If there are areas of concern, parents should contact the Ensembles Supervisor, Ms Holt.
- Performances will be noted in school publications.

## Social Media and apps

- No social media accounts or apps are to be used for ensembles or to communicate directly between students or tutors.
- Students must communicate with their Ensemble Director through the appropriate school channels.