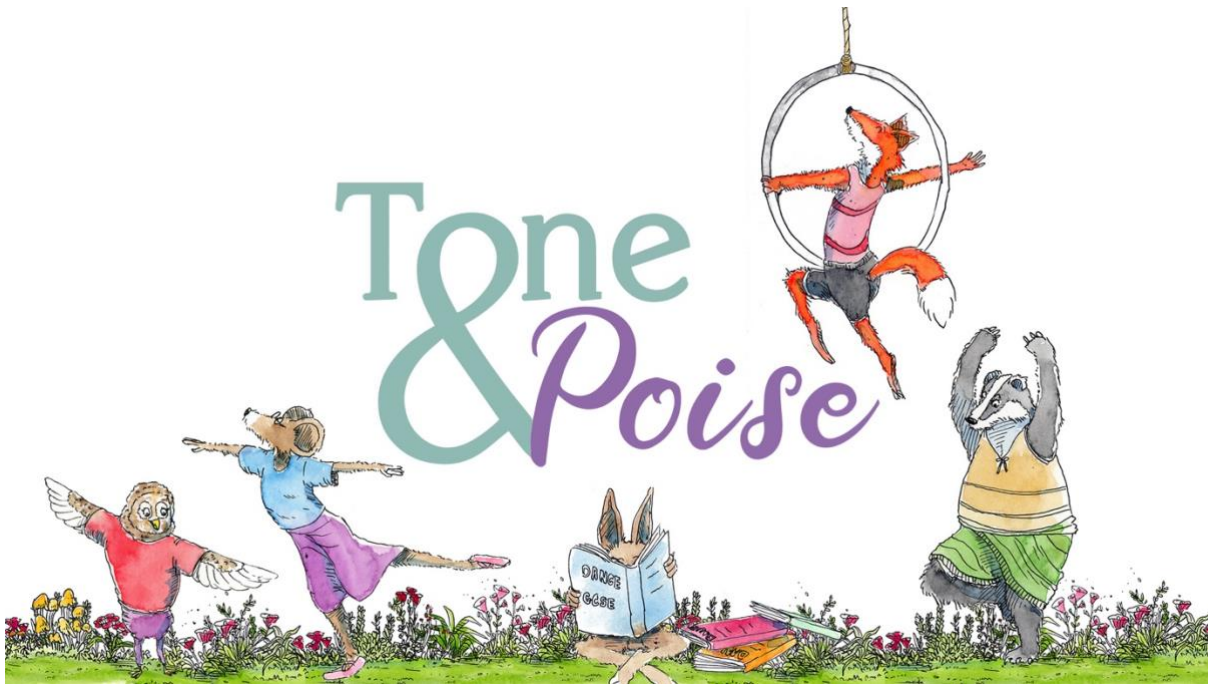




Tone & Poise Dance Competition 2027

Dance in Schools Key Stage 1-5

Date: Friday 5th February 2027

Location: The Oakwood Centre, Headley Road
Woodley, Berkshire, RG5 4JZ

This competition was put together to be an inclusive dance competition supporting Dance within schools. The aim is to provide students who dance within PE, Drama, or Dance in the curriculum an opportunity to compete in a friendly competition against like-minded students.

This competition is aimed at students who do not normally have the opportunity to enter competitions, they may want to use this as a performance platform to rehearse exam work, or to compete for the first time as a club or solo. This does not mean that students who have competed before cannot enter, but, consider this as a place to encourage those who have developed dance skills in school to show off.

I look forward to welcoming you to the competition, whether you have been before or wish to enter for the first time.

Kind regards,

Claire Tyler Hewson

Director of Tone & Poise

IMPORTANT DEADLINES

Please make every effort to meet these deadlines as this is not my only job and I schedule in the planning to support the competition around these dates.

- Final entrance deadlines for dances: Monday 2nd November 2026
- Invoice sent: Friday 6th November 2026
- Payment deadline: Friday 11th December 2026
- 1-week late fees issued: Friday 18th December 2026
- Music received via WeTransfer: Friday 8th January 2027
- Final details including dancers and/or dance titles: 22nd January 2027

No changes to the entries will be allowed after 20th January 2026

Submission of entries

<https://forms.gle/LCu37NXCBzH2RhP9>

Payment

If your schools requires a form to be completed by myself prior to payment, or has a specific policy, please let me know so that we can avoid late fees.

Once entries have been received, an invoice will be sent, please pay using the school's name as the reference.

All payments online, no cheques or cash.

Late fees will be issued a week after the deadline if there is no payment.

Please be aware that I may close sections sooner if they become full, so early entry is recommended.

Audience Entrance Fees

Audience members need to purchase tickets online via the website, no cash on the door. If there is space, they can purchase tickets on the day via the website. I will share a link once the tickets are released.

Teachers will have access for themselves or chaperones – please wear school ID badge, however, students should not be left unattended and will only be allowed in to watch if there is space after ticket holders have been seated.

No fee for entrants to watch, but please allow parents to sit first.

Limited space available, therefore seats will be allocated on first come, first serve basis.

Judging

The competition will have judges from within the Dance industry rather than adjudicators to encourage a friendly and welcoming competition.

All competitors will be scored in accordance with the criteria below, with a 1st & 2nd place awarded for each class. No reports will be given, verbal feedback will be given by the judges at presentation.

1st Place: A dancer or dance group who show unity and commitment to the dance, highlighting the appropriate emotion and expressive skill. The dance has been performed with care to replicate the selected style, and on the day of the competition, stands out from the rest to the judges.

2nd Place: As above, but on the day of the competition, this dancer or dance stands out to a lesser degree.

Judges Performer award: Awarded to the individual who stood out to them the most, who shows potential and enthusiasm to the overall performance.

Dance Styles

Dancers will identify which style they are performing to aid the judges.

If a mixed age group of dancers from various Key Stages, they must enter the section based on the oldest dancer.

Solos and duets will be judged separately to groups where possible.

Style	Description
Street Dance	To include elements of one or more of the following: hip-hop, breaking, popping, locking, krumping, B-boying
Contemporary/Modern/Lyrical	To include elements of one or more of the following: Interpretive technique, contract-release, floor work, fall and recovery, improvisation characteristics of modern dance, emotive response to music &/or theme
Ballet	Can be character, modern ballet, classical ballet or romantic ballet, but must include technique found in ballet repertoire.
Tap	Using tap shoes to replicate rhythms with accompaniment in a classic or modern way.

Jazz/Musical Theatre	Can be performed with or without live vocals, can represent a dance inspired by west end productions, or 1930's Jazz technique.
Acro	The merging of gymnastics and technical dance to create a fusion.
Choreography	Dancers own choreography – no input from the teacher.
International	Any dance originating from a traditional, folk or national dance.

These descriptors are short and therefore not all encompassing.

Ages: Based on current year group within Key Stages

Key Stage	Year group
Key Stage 1	Year 1-2
Key Stage 2	Year 3-6
Key Stage 3	Year 7-9
Key Stage 4	Year 10&11
Key Stage 5	Year 12&13

Time Limits

	Solo & duets	Trio, quartets and groups
Key Stage 1&2	1-1.5 mins	3.5 mins
Key Stage 3	1.5-2.5 mins	
Key Stage 4&5	2-3 mins	

Music

All music will need to be sent using the instructions following your entry by **Friday 8th January 2027**.

Approximate timings of the Day based on 2026

Time	Activity
1.30am	Key stage 1&2
3pm	Key stage 3
5pm	Key stage 4
7pm	Key stage 5
8pm	End

RULES

General

1. Child safety is of upmost importance and as such all teachers, volunteers and competition staff hold a current DBS check.
2. No student will be allowed to walk around the site unaccompanied.
3. Entries must be submitted via the form by 2nd November 2026.
4. Entries will be closed when the competition is full which may come before the closing date, entries will be processed in order of receipt.
5. Refunds of fees are not possible under any circumstances unless the festival is cancelled by Tone & Poise.
6. Payment must be made on receipt of the invoice. Any fees not paid by the deadline will receive late fees or be removed from the competition.
7. The final schedule will be sent out via email to the email address you have provided.
8. Any queries relating to the festival should be addressed to the organiser via email.
9. The adjudicator's decision will be final in all cases. Any communication relating to decisions is strictly forbidden and may render the competitor liable to disqualification.
10. The use of any recording or photographic equipment during performances is strictly forbidden due to safeguarding – if exam work is required to be filmed, please as permission.
11. The competition may be professionally photographed and these will be available for purchase after the festival. More information will follow.
12. By participating in the competition you are giving permission to be photographed and should inform the competition organiser that they have photo permission from parents.
13. Tone & Poise and its festival staff reserve the right to alter, modify or cancel any of the arrangements.
14. Tone & Poise cannot be held responsible for any loss of or damage to any personal property on site.
15. Only festival staff and teachers with a valid DBS shown to the competition organiser will be allowed backstage
16. Seating in the auditorium is on a first come first served basis and spectators must not reserve seats for people.
17. Teachers and choreographers are responsible for their own music licensing. You will not be asked for a copy of your music licence.
18. Medals will be given to the competitors on stage should they be fortunate enough to place in a section.
19. Tone & Poise will have first aiders on site and any accidents should be reported immediately, it is recommended that schools have a first aider and bring a first aid kit.
20. All competitors and spectators must be pleasant and kind to one another and will be asked to leave if this is not the case. We aim to have a friendly and supportive competition where all students have the opportunity to share their talents.

21. Competitors must attend their section no later than 30 minutes before it is due to start.
22. Performers or teachers should notify the competition organiser if they are no longer able to attend, giving as much notice as possible.
23. Students may wish to wear costumes to add to their performance. No marks are awarded for their costume but adjudicators will be looking at the overall performance.
24. No set is allowed but small handheld props are permitted.
25. If groups require chairs they must contact and agree this with the competition organiser prior to the competition.
26. Students will not be permitted to start again if they make a mistake or forget their routine, unless at the discretion of the judge.
27. Please note that the stated Time Limits above should not be exceeded; if you exceed the time limit the adjudicator may ask for the competitor to stop the performance.
28. Please follow the entry guidelines via the form
29. This competition is for amateur dancers only.
30. If students competing in a duet or group section are in different key stages, e.g. KS3 and KS5, the oldest age of the competitors is taken.
31. Music must be age appropriate and not contain explicit lyrics.
32. We suggest where possible students arrive in costume.
33. There will be minimal backstage space.