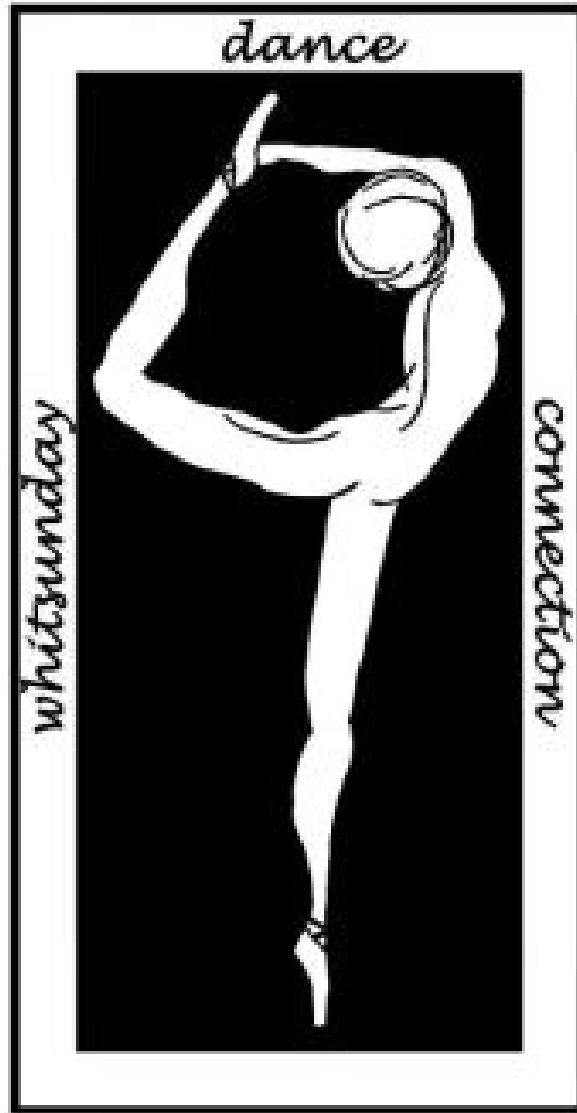




PROSPECTUS 2023

Forward Message

Welcome to Whitsunday Dance Connection in the heart of the Whitsundays. We wish you a warm welcome to our dance school. So, with an ice-cold drink, we encourage you to sit and read our Prospectus 2023 for an overview of our school, teachers, syllabus, classes and enrolment procedures.

Whitsunday Dance Connection is a family-friendly school, and we welcome new and old local students and their families to our dance school. Given the transient nature of our area, we also welcome dance students from interstate and out of town to continue their dance studies with us.

To commence the process of a beautiful journey of dance, complete the enrolment form, provide correct contact information and return the forms to the dance school or via email. I look forward to being able to assist you with all your dance needs.

Kind regards,

Jenny Featherstone

Principal

Whitsunday Dance Connection

Philosophy

Whitsunday Dance Connection strives to inspire, enrich and educate students in the Art of Dance. We aim to motivate young minds and develop happy, healthy dancers in an "I love to dance" atmosphere. Our goal is to teach musical awareness, develop rhythm and coordination, stretch and strengthen and improve posture in our dancers. Through dance, students learn to build confidence and further develop their social skills. Our students are versed in the many styles of dance from Ballet, Tap and Jazz to Modern, Hip Hop, Acro and Musical Theatre. Whether our students choose a life path that involves dance or not, we feel that every student who leaves our studio will have a solid foundation to enter the world as a sincere individual with a strong character.



Teaching Staff

Whitsunday Dance Connection staff foster a positive nurturing approach to dance to encourage our younger dancers to grow in individual confidence. Our dance teachers are highly qualified having pursued dance at the University level and holding a Bachelor of Dance degree. Our teachers continue to build on their skills by attending workshops and other professional development opportunities when available.

Jenny Featherstone



*Jenny Featherstone – Principal
Teacher Choreographer*

Miss Jenny began dancing at five years of age in Brisbane. Alongside her two sisters, the three Featherstone girls fell in love with dancing.

Pursuing a career in dance at 16 years old Miss Jenny attended the Queensland Dance School of Excellence (QDSE) completing her Diploma during 1991 – 1992. In her final year at QDSE, many years of hard work, persistence, dedication and her love for dance came to fruition for Miss Jenny when she was bestowed the honour of being awarded 'Dancer of the Year' in 1992.

The following year Miss Jenny was accepted into the University of Melbourne's - Victorian College of Arts, where she completed her university studies, 1993 – 1995 being awarded her Bachelor of Dance Degree.

In 1996 having graduated from University Miss Jenny, at the young age of 21, moved to Proserpine to run Dance Connection. One year later Miss Jenny built the region's first purpose-built studio for Dance relocating the school to Cannonvale and reopening it as Whitsunday Dance Connection where she has been the principal ever since.

Miss Jenny is a registered teacher in the Royal Academy of Dance R.A.D Syllabus and is a registered teacher of the Glenn Wood Tap G.W.T Syllabus.

Tia Attwood



Tia Attwood – Teacher Choreographer

Miss Tia is a past student of Whitsunday Dance Connection of 13 years. Tia graduated from our WDC family in December 2018 after finishing year 12, starting as a Pre-Primary Jazz and Ballet student when she was 5 years old (2006). During her time at WDC Tia sat her Royal

Academy of Dance Ballet Examinations and Glenn Wood Tap Syllabus Exams. In her time at WDC she competed at Eisteddfods from 2009 at the age of 8 years in Jazz, Tap, Lyrical, Contemporary, and Cabaret until she graduated. In 2018 Tia received WDC Lanai Halemai Encouragement Award Trophy.

After leaving WDC, Tia moved to Brisbane to complete her Diploma and Advanced Diploma in Performing Arts (Dance) at APCA (Aboriginal Centre Performing Arts) during 2019 and 2020. In her years at APCA, Tia was selected to do a secondment in Sydney with Bangarra Dance Theatre, in Brisbane with Australasian Dance Collective and Circa. While at APCA she performed at Queensland Great Awards, Queens Ball for Pride Week, C&K Conferences, and End of year showcase at QPAC "The Wiz" and "Roar into the 20's". In 2020 Tia was chosen to be part of the Cadetship program with the Australian Ballet Education and Outreach Team based in Melbourne. Tia also appears in a TV commercial for QPAC, "The most amazing seat is yours at QPAC" and has performed and choreographed her work for the Queensland Premier at the 2021 International Women's Day Ball.

Tia has moved back home to the Whitsundays from Brisbane equipped with the latest dance styles and choreography. She is ready to teach at WDC for her third year in 2023.

Syllabus and Classes

CLASSICAL BALLET

Students who learn Classical Ballet, study the Royal Academy of Dance (R.A.D) Syllabus. The Royal Academy of Dance (RAD) is one of the largest and most influential dance education and training organisations in the world. The Academy's patron is HM Queen Elizabeth II.

Each year, the examination syllabus is taught to more than a quarter of a million students worldwide. The Graded Examinations in Dance Syllabus consists of two dance disciplines:



- **Ballet** - the foundation and the essential part of the syllabus.

Each year the students are prepared for an annual Examination or Class Award which takes place in July / August of each year. (Examinations will be by invitation only). Ballet is a disciplined class yet enjoyable for students.



- **Character** - the theatrical presentation of national dance using original ethnic dance and music which has been freely adapted for the theatre. The three styles — Hungarian, Russian and Polish — were selected because of their historical importance in the development of nineteenth-century full-length classical ballet.



Forms of assessment are:

- Class Awards are based on the Graded Examinations. These are performed in front of a RAD examiner and conducted by the teacher. Candidates receive an Assessment Report, a Certificate and a Medal from the RAD.
- In examinations, candidates receive a certificate, assessment report and medal from the RAD. They are assessed by the RAD Examiner only.

AGE REQUIREMENT – the Royal Academy of Dance has specific age requirements for students sitting graded examinations and class awards. Whitsunday Dance Connection has a minimum age requirement for our classes beginning with the Kindy Tot's class so that students will meet the criteria set out by R.A.D

KINDY TOTS – Age 4 to 5, for students born between 1 July to 30 June.

Our Kindy Tots class is a prevalent class amongst the 4 and 5-year-old age group. This class is an imaginative class where students learn to dance through creative play and movement. This class teaches fundamental movement skills in a fun environment. It will capture and nurture young children's instinctive joy of movement and freedom of expression. They will also start to develop and appreciate movement with music and start to learn spatial awareness. Students can wear their favourite ballerina or fairy costume to class or the set leotard with ballet skirt and ballet shoes for girls. Boys wear comfortable clothing or singlet with bike pants with black ballet shoes and white socks.



PRE-PRIMARY DANCE

(Prep at School) Born 1 July – 30 June, Age 5 to 6.

PRIMARY DANCE

(Year 1 at School) Born 1 July – 30 June, Age 6 to 7.

GRADE ONE

(Year 2 at School) Born 1 July – 30 June, Age 7 to 8.

MODERN DANCE

(RAD Grade 3 Ballet upwards)

Modern is a contemporary style of dance offered to students who have been learning ballet for some years for strength and technique. The youngest age group accepted into these classes is nine to ten years of age. These classes have strict size restrictions.



JAZZ CLASSES

Students attending jazz classes learn a disciplined class, learning dance routines with correct technique. This structured class teaches jazz techniques, focusing on basic jazz positions, turns, jumps and leaps. Students will also learn centre and locomotor progressions, e.g., skip, leap, and gallop as well as proper stretching techniques to enhance strength and flexibility. Dancers will learn combinations set to music while having fun dancing to the latest (suitable) hits. Students learn new dance steps in each lesson.



TAP CLASSES

Age 6 (Year 1 at School - Born 1 July – 30 June)

GWT is a rhythmical tapping syllabus and was launched *Glenn Wood Tap – The Syllabus* in 2004. Glenn wrote the GWT syllabus after many years of teaching and adjudicating tap. He noticed that there was a need for a dynamic and exciting



Tap syllabus – based on technique and the classic tap of the past. This syllabus is currently taught in over 300 schools. Tap is a technical class where students develop musicality quickly. Each year we offer WDC students the opportunity to sit an annual tap exam. Exams help enable students to see the rewards of their hard work and provide them with an acknowledgment of their achievements.



ACRO DANCE

Acro dance is a style of dance that combines classical dance techniques with precision acrobatic elements. Acro is an incredibly challenging dance style for dancers as it requires training in both dance and acrobatic skills. Miss Tia is a qualified Acro dance instructor.



HIP HOP CLASSES

(Year 4 at school upwards) Born 1 July – 30 June)

Hip Hop is a dance style, usually danced to Hip Hop music, which evolved from the Hip Hop culture. There are many different styles of Hip Hop available with our teacher, Miss Tia.

GROOMING

All female ballet students must wear their hair in a tidy, secure bun for ballet, if possible. For other dance classes hair can be worn in a secure ponytail, with hair pulled back off the face for a neat appearance.

For the safety of students in the studio, it is a requirement that NO Excess jewellery, i.e., watches/necklaces and bracelets permitted in the dance studio due to safe dance and discipline reasons.

ATTIRE

Dancewear is to be worn with correct dance shoes. (No street clothes)

Ballet students wear ballet shoes, leotard, pink socks or pink tights. (Ballet skirt for Pre-primary, Primary ballet and Kindy Tots only).

Our studio does not have a set-coloured uniform; any coloured dancewear will be suitable. Our Dancewear Shop is stocked with quality dancewear made, especially for dancing.

ATTENDANCE REQUIREMENTS

Attendance at every dance lesson is vital to enable the entire class to progress as quickly as possible. A class roll is marked at the commencement of every dance class. Students learning syllabus classes must continue a good class attendance to sit an examination. If attendance is low due to sickness or urgent matters, please email or message WDC to inform Miss Jenny and Miss Tia out of courtesy.

General Information

CANNONVALE STUDIO

The Cannonvale Studio located at 13 Commerce Close is purposefully built for dance. It features one large and one small studio. Our studios are fully air-conditioned and fitted out with ballet barres and mirrors. We have both Male and Female change rooms and a dancewear shop. Outside we have an undercover patio area for waiting parents and siblings which is fully fenced by a safety fence separating it from our ample off-street parking.



Studio One

DRINKING WATER

There is a water bubbler located outside near the main entrance to the building. We ask that all students please bring named water bottles/drink bottles with them into the dance studio.

Dancing terms coincide with state school terms. Students studying towards a RAD Exam or Class Award will participate in ballet vacation classes during the June/July school holidays for precision work. Tap students sitting a GWT Exam are required to attend extra tap classes during August/September weekends.

Whitsunday Dance Connection holds two annual dance concerts at the end of each dance year. These take place at the Proserpine Entertainment Centre.

2023 CONCERT DATES

Each year WDC showcases the years' work culminating in our annual concert performances held at the Proserpine Entertainment Centre. Matinee and Evening Dance Concerts Saturday 25th November.

All our students love concert time as they can perform the dances they have been learning throughout the year with confidence in front of large audiences.

We have two rehearsals leading up to the concerts.

SPACE CALL – Saturday 28th October. Students are to come dressed in regular dancewear. We rehearse on the stage. Concert tickets will also be on sale close to this date.

DRESS REHEARSAL – Sunday 12th November. Students are to come in full makeup and bring all their costumes, shoes and props to the full-dress rehearsal on stage. Students will have the opportunity to sit for photo portraits for a small sitting fee on the day with Tropix Photography.

COSTUMES

Costumes are purchased ready-made; we aim to keep costume prices affordable. WDC Teachers organise the costumes.



WDC UNIFORM

Our official uniform is the red polo with the school logo on the back



Our uniform polo is not compulsory but worn by the majority of our WDC students. Costs - \$46 Childs, \$50 Adults.

FACEBOOK

WDC has its own Facebook page where our dance community meets and where you can find helpful videos and advice on how to do ballet buns and makeup or find last-minute messages from your class teachers simply log on to www.facebook.com/dancewdc.

TUITION FEES

Fees are payable at the commencement of each term for the whole term. Fees are non-refundable for missed classes, due to strict number of places available in each class.

Miss Jenny will add an Enrolment Fee of \$25.00 per child to the term fees at the commencement of your dancing year.

Term fees are emailed at the commencement of each dance term.

Class Prices - \$12.00 per half hour class. \$13.00 per 45-minute class and \$14.00 per 1-hour class. These prices are GST inclusive.

EISTEDDFODS & PRIVATE LESSONS

Each year Students from WDC compete annual Eisteddfods in dance at Ayr and Mackay. Eisteddfods require extra commitment from the student as they undertake private lessons to choreograph their routines with Miss Jenny or Miss Tia. As well as our solo performers from time to time, we select group routines to enter at competition level.

Students preparing for exams, RAD or GWT, extra coaching is available before the exams. COST half hour \$27.50 or full hour \$55.



We will be there to assist you with any further queries you may have, and you will be able to view the dance studios.

The Dance Wear Shop has all your dancing needs and sells quality dancewear. We have everything from ballet, tap and jazz shoes, tights, socks, and leotards, hairpins and dance skirts, etc.

CONTACTS

Jenny Featherstone

(Principal/Dance Teacher/
Choreographer)

Mobile: 0418 480 816

Email: missjenny6@bigpond.com

ABN 77 377 300 952

TERM DATES

Term 1 30 January – 31 March

Term 2 17 April – 23 June
25 April Anzac Day*
1 May Labour Day*
23 June Proserpine Show
Day*

Term 3 10 July - 15 September

Term 4 3 October – 24 November

*Public holidays (except pupil free days) –
STUDIO CLOSED. We follow the State
School system at WDC. No Charge for
cancelled classes.

DANCEWEAR SHOP

Whitsunday Dance Wear Shop is located
inside the dance studio main entrance
and will be open for sales -

Monday 23 January

Tuesday 24 January

Wednesday 25 January

Thursday 26 Australia Day Public Holiday

Friday 27 January

From 3:00pm – 5:30pm



A Brief History

Formally known as Dance Connection and established about 1991, the old dance school was located on Edward St, at the Buffalo Hall in Proserpine.



The old Dance Connection School

In 1996 a young dance graduate answered a phone call and accepted an offer to run the dance school not knowing where it was or that it would forever change the rest of her life. In March that year current principal Jenny Featherstone arrived in Proserpine to begin teaching dance to the 70 Dance Connection students and run the school.

The following year Miss Jenny built the region's first purpose-built dance studio in Commerce Close Cannonvale. The dance school relocated from Proserpine to Cannonvale. In 1997 Miss Jenny opened the dance school renaming it Whitsunday Dance Connection (WDC).

The new dance school only had one studio. Studio two (the small studio) was Miss Jenny's residence for the first 11 years. Miss Jenny lived and worked there running the studio by herself teaching dance to every student at WDC growing the number of students to over 200 during this time.

In 2006 Miss Jenny appointed a second dance teacher and choreographer, Paula Bradley, a graduate of the highly acclaimed WAAPA in Perth. Miss Paula was with us teaching at WDC for sixteen years as an excellent addition and great asset to WDC until she moved down south. Miss Tia commences her third year as a WDC dance teacher and choreographer with us.

In 2023 we will begin 27 years as Whitsunday Dance Connection!

We look forward to you joining our family and continuing to make history.

ENROLMENT PROCEDURE

Please scan and email the enrolment form to reserve your place. (Miss Jenny will check class availability once she has your information). There is an enrolment fee of \$25, added to your term fees once your child(ren) has commenced their classes.

Dancing for 2023 commences: Monday 30 January 2023

Whitsunday Dance Wear Shop is located inside the dance studio building and will be open for sales on the following dates leading up to the new dance year commencing.

Monday 23 January

Tuesday 24 January

Wednesday 25 January

Thursday 26 Australia Day Public Holiday

Friday 27 January

From 3:00pm – 5:30pm

Saturday 28 January: by appointment only, contact Miss Jenny.





We have selected the Eureka Style in the Polo Shirt. The polo shirts for kids are unisex and matching polo shirts for teenagers (adult sizing).

KIDS - sizing chart

Size	6	8	10	12	14	16
Measurement (cm)	38	40	42	44	46	49

ADULTS – sizing chart

Size	8	10	12	14	16	18	20	22	24	26
Measurement (cm)	45	47.5	50	52.5	55	57.5	60	64.5	69.5	74.5

HOW TO MEASURE

To measure the size required, you need to measure ½ chest measurement.

Measure the front of the chest from armpit to armpit (use tape measure).

\$ 46 Childs

\$ 50 Adults

Many polo shirts are in stock at our little dancewear shop. You are welcome to place an order.

WDC ENROLMENT FORM 2023

STUDENT DETAILS

Surname: _____ Given Name: _____

Age: _____ D.O.B: _____

Classes to be enrolled: _____

Mother's Name: _____ Father's Name: _____

Address: _____

Mailing Address: _____

Email: _____

Home Phone: _____ Work Phone: _____

Mother's Mobile: _____ Father's Mobile: _____

Hobbies & Interests: _____

Expectations of dance for your child: _____

MEDICAL HISTORY

Briefly state child's medical condition (e.g. asthma)

Parent's Signature: _____



WDC PHOTOGRAPHY PERMISSION FORM

As part of our communications activity, Whitsunday Dance Connection will occasionally use photography for publicity purposes. We would like your permission to photograph/film you/your relative for possible inclusion in our publications, website, Facebook and any other publicity material. The image(s) will remain the property of Whitsunday Dance Connection. Any photography is for the designated purpose of promoting the school's aims to widening access to dance and artistic expression in the arts. It may also be included in the central Whitsunday Dance Connection image library for use in future publications and may be kept on file for 12+ years. You/your relative's contact details will remain strictly confidential.

Student Name(s):

Address:

.....

Contact number:

Email address:

If the participant(s) is/are under 16 years old, please give the date of birth of individual and name and contact details for parent/guardian:

Date of birth:

Name of parent/guardian:

Please circle: I do / I do not give photo permission for my child/children.

Signed: Date:

(Must be signed by parent/guardian if the individual is under 16 years old)

By choosing 'I do', I permit Whitsunday Dance Connection (Principal, Jenny Featherstone), its Website and Facebook administrators, and any other Communications and Marketing persons in the direct employ or contracted to Whitsunday Dance Connection to use photographs of me/my relative in WDC publications and publicity material, and for inclusion in the central WDC image library, or any other purpose expressly for the promotion of the dance school and its aims.

Please be aware that images are posted to Facebook, along with class information, tips, concert information, and all emergency information.

Whitsunday Dance Connection, WDC, and any associated images remain the sole property of Miss Jenny Featherstone, Principal and Owner, WDC