

# THE WESTON



## SCHOOL OF DANCE & PERFORMING ARTS

*Founded 1939*

### INFORMATION

Office

28 Prykes Drive

Chelmsford CM1 1TP

Tel: (01245) 287638 Fax: (01245) 494000

[www.westonschools.co.uk](http://www.westonschools.co.uk)

Dear Parent or Student,

Thank you for enquiring about the Weston School of Dance & Performing Arts. We have pleasure in detailing herein the work of the School and we hope that you will find something to interest you.

The school aims to cater for everyone. Children are accepted from the age of three years (provided that they are out of nappies), and we provide classes for all ages, including adults. Children can train in ballet, modern theatre dance, tap and (when they are a little older) jazz and musical theatre. Adults, too, can attend these disciplines and there are beginners classes in tap and ballet. The majority of our students want to dance for sheer pleasure, some will want to work towards examinations and others may want to make dancing their career. Whatever their aims we give them every encouragement to achieve them.

Dancing should be fun! Our first priority is that students enjoy themselves, safely and under the eye of experienced teachers. But dancing also provides other benefits: exercise and an improvement in posture and co-ordination; development of confidence and social skills; musical and artistic appreciation; the cultivation of imagination, to mention a just a few.

All of our teachers are qualified with the Imperial Society of Teachers of Dancing (ISTD) and students who are working towards their teaching qualifications and gaining teaching practice are regularly monitored. All are enthusiastic and work hard to ensure that a high standard of teaching is maintained at all levels.

The Weston School of Dance & Performing Arts is recognised as one of the foremost dance training establishments in Essex. The amount of interest and enthusiasm generated by our teachers and students means that it will continue to go from strength to strength. We hope you will join us.

Yours sincerely,



GEOFF WHEATLEY AND ELISABETH SWAN

# Why choose the Weston School?

## Our service

The Weston School is a business partnership which aims to provide a friendly and personal atmosphere for students and parents. However, as a client of any well run establishment, you can expect to be afforded a business-like and professional approach. A number of facilities are in place for your convenience.

### Classes

With our many branches we are able to offer a choice of classes at several levels which we hope will make it easier to find something to fit in with already busy schedules. With alternative classes available there is also the facility to make up classes missed during the term.

### To stay or not to stay?

Parents are not encouraged to stay in the studio with their children except when there may be difficulties in the first couple of weeks. However, we do invite family members to watch classes during the final week of each term.

### Newsletter

Published at least once a term this is our way of keeping in touch with you.

### Open Day

This is an opportunity to relax with some light refreshment and talk to the partners and teachers, register for classes, purchase dancewear, and to generally meet us and see what we look like!

### Uniform Sales

As well as being able to purchase dancewear at Open Day, the school's dancewear uniform (not required for pre-school children or adults) is on sale at selected venues over the first two weeks of term. Dates are published in the newsletter. Additionally, you can request an order form from your teacher and obtain your requirements via the school office.

### Peace of Mind

The school carries a comprehensive insurance, protecting students whilst taking part in classes. This does not, however, extend to personal property.

## Office Hours

The school office is open every weekday morning between 10.00 am and 1.00 pm during term time so you can be sure to be able to speak to someone personally between those times. See back page for details.

## Credit / Debit Cards

Payment by credit or debit card is accepted for most classes and examinations thus helping you spread the cost to suit your budget. Once your account is established you can also opt to pay by standing order.

## Policy Statement

The school has a number of policies in place which have a bearing upon students and their families. These have been crafted for the safety and well-being of all involved. We expect parents and students to support teachers and other staff in achieving these aims. An abbreviated version of each of the Health and Safety Policy, Equal Opportunity and Non-Harassment Policy, Child Protection Policy and Complaints and Appeals procedure will be sent with your first term's invoice. Full versions may be viewed, by arrangement, at the school's office.

### *A SHORT HISTORY*

*1939 is a date which will remain in the memories of a great many people but, for a former dancer with the Paris Opéra, it had even greater meaning. For this was the year in which Joan Weston started her dancing school in Little Waltham Memorial Hall, a school which has developed and progressed over seventy years and which regularly sends students for professional training and onto a successful career in international cabaret, television and theatre. Joan trained with Stanislas Idzikowski, a former soloist with the Diaghilev Ballet Company who was himself trained by the Italian danseur, Enrico Cecchetti. It is the Cecchetti method of ballet which is still taught at the Weston School today, alongside tap, modern dance, jazz and musical theatre skills. Joan Weston went on to found the Chelmsford Ballet Company but retired from teaching in 1975. The school, which was housed for many years at The Manse in Chelmsford's New London Road, passed into the experienced hands of Wendy Watts who stood at the helm for twelve years.*

*The Weston School of Dancing began a new chapter on 1st September 1988 under the direction of Elisabeth Swan and her husband, Geoff Wheatley. Since then it has expanded to take in the Victoria Chappell School of Dancing in Great Dunmow, in March 1989, and four months later the Christina Ballard School of Dance in Ramsden Heath was taken under its wing.*

# Your Opportunities

In addition to regular classes, students are given a number of other opportunities to dance, should they wish to do more. NOTHING is compulsory although we do hope that children, with suitable encouragement from their teachers and parents, might like to fully explore all avenues.

## Examinations

These are arranged under the auspices of the ISTD and children (and adults) are invited to enter only when their teacher considers them to be fully prepared. Children are generally entered in groups and the examiner's aim is to make this an enjoyable experience. However, examinations are entirely optional and a child's progress through the school will not be hindered should he or she decline.

## Prizegiving

The presentation of examination certificates, together with the school's own special trophies and certificates of merit, is made at our annual prizegiving. This is usually held at the Chelmsford Civic Theatre prior to the start of the school year and is always a happy and popular event.

## Choreography Competition

Students are given the opportunity to enter our choreography competition which is held prior to the beginning of the autumn term each year. The winners and runners up are then invited to perform their work at prizegiving, the following week.

## Mufti-Week

During the week of, or prior to *Children In Need* students are encouraged to dress up (or down) for their dance classes. A pound (£1) is charged for the privilege and this is donated to this worthwhile charity. Students are also encouraged to bring a friend to join in the fun.

## School Show

This is a marvellous opportunity for students to dress up, slap on some make-up and put all that hard work into practice! **Everyone** is encouraged to take part, from the youngest three-year-old (who, after all, steals the show) to the most advanced student. Unlike a number of schools we mount a production every two years. This way the syllabus work receives less interruption thus ensuring high standards of technique are maintained and, by taking a whole term to learn the choreography and rehearse the dances, the end result is a polished and professional production of which everyone can be proud. Our last production was in July 2011 and we look forward to the next in 2013!

## **Chelmsford Ballet Company**

Ballet students, having gained their Grade 2 certificate, are encouraged to audition for dancing membership of the town's own ballet company. A number of our students perform in the Company's annual production and, drawing on this experience, many go on to further training and a professional career in dance.

## **Other performing opportunities**

The school is occasionally invited to provide students to take part in the productions of visiting professional companies. Those with whom we have danced include *Vienna Festival Ballet* and the *European Ballet Company*. Our dancers have also performed in *Godspell*, *Sweeny Todd* and *The Wizard of Oz* as part of the professional season at the Civic Theatre.

## **Cecchetti Associates**

The Cecchetti (classical ballet) Society holds three classes per term in Twickenham for talented children, selected from throughout the UK. A number of children are put forward by the school for audition each year, which results in a high success rate.

## **Cecchetti Scholarships**

These prestigious scholarships for weekly ballet classes in London are offered to talented students, age 11 plus, subject to audition.

## **Competitions**

When appropriate, students are invited to take part in prestigious competitions such as the **Cecchetti Children's Awards** (classical ballet), the **Star Tap Awards** (tap dancing) and the **Janet Cram Awards** (modern theatre dance).

## **Vocational Training**

Students who want to make dancing their career are offered the relevant advice and opportunities regarding further training. The school has been fortunate to see former students proceed onto a successful career in international cabaret, television and theatre.

## What to Do Now

Please read through the rest of this information booklet then study the enclosed timetable. Once you have decided for which class or classes you wish to enrol complete the enrolment form and return this to the school office. Your enrolment will be acknowledged.

Once a place becomes available you will be sent confirmation. You, or your child, will then be welcome to attend a **free trial lesson** and, provided that you wish to continue, we will send you an invoice for the balance of the term's fees. Please return your remittance to us within three weeks of receipt. If, however, after the trial lesson, you do not wish to continue with classes, you should telephone us immediately and an invoice will not be raised.

## What to Wear

With the exception of "Pay-As-You-Go" and "Pre-School" classes all students are required to wear the School's uniform, details of which will be sent once your enrolment form has been received. However, we suggest that no purchase is made for the first two weeks. This will ensure that the student is going to settle before investing in such a purchase.

Students attending adult classes may wear any comfortable exercise clothing (no bare midriffs please). Under 5's class pupils should wear a full skirted dress or skirt and blouse for girls; boys should wear shorts and a tee-shirt.

### Introduce a Friend

and receive a £5 voucher

We hope you will be happy with the service and training that we have to offer. If so, please pass on our details to anyone who shows an interest and, upon settlement of their first term's invoice, we will send you a £5 voucher towards your own fees. Remember to ask them to tell us where the recommendation came from! The more recommendations you make, the greater the discount you can achieve.

## **DATES FOR THE ACADEMIC YEAR COMMENCING SEPTEMBER 2011**

Office opens Tuesday 27th August 2011  
Autumn term commences Monday 5th September 2011  
Half term Monday 17th October to  
Saturday 29th October 2011 inc  
Autumn term ends Saturday 26th November 2011

Office opens Tuesday 3rd January 2012  
Spring term commences Monday 9th January 2012  
Half term Monday 13th February to  
Saturday 25th February 2012 inc  
Spring term ends Saturday 31st March 2012

Office opens Tuesday 17th April 2012  
Summer term commences Friday 20th April 2012  
Half term Monday 4th June to  
Saturday 9th June 2012 inc  
Summer term ends Thursday 5th July 2012

Classes will not be held on Bank Holiday Monday 7th May, but will be held instead, after the end of term, on Monday 9th July

# FEES

All fees are **per term** and are inclusive of 20% VAT, as follows:

First half hour (junior or mixed level classes)	£62.98
First half hour (if only senior classes are taken)	£66.34
Additional half-hourly rate for junior classes ** (i.e. up to and including Grade III Ballet, Modern and Tap)	£31.70
Additional half-hourly rate for Senior classes ** (i.e. above Grade III Ballet, Modern and Tap, Jazz and Tap Awards)	£35.06
Hourly rate for teachers' qualifying examinations ** (i.e. DD1, DDE, Licentiate etc)	£16.80

\*\* Part hours charged pro rata

Please note: the fees above are for core subjects i.e. ballet, modern, tap and jazz. Alternative subjects, i.e. pilates, hip-hop and musical theatre, are charged at half the above prices when they are taken in addition to a core subject. The cost of classes effectively reduce when multiple classes are taken. Examples of costs of core subject classes are as follows:

Junior classes only, per term		Senior classes only, per term	
30 minutes	£62.98	30 minutes	N/A
45 minutes	£78.83	45 minutes	£83.87
60 minutes	£94.68	60 minutes	£101.40
75 minutes	£110.53	75 minutes	£118.93
90 minutes	£126.38	90 minutes	£136.46



The cost of classes missed through illness or injury will be credited upon receipt of a doctor's certificate



## SPECIAL OFFER

Your first term's fees  
charged at **HALF** the above prices!!

## FREE TRIAL LESSON

## **PAY-AS-YOU-GO CLASSES**

(As detailed on back page of timetable)

Payment may be made at the class, per week, or a book of ten tickets may be purchased, valid for two terms.

45 minute classes ..... £6.70 per class OR £53.60 per book

60 minute classes ..... £8.10 per class OR £64.80 per book

75 minute classes ..... £9.20 per class OR 73.60 per book

90 minute classes ..... £10.70 per class OR £85.60 per book

The second of two consecutive PAYG classes is charged at **HALF the PRICE** of the longest of the two classes, or half-a-ticket!

## **TERMS and CONDITIONS**

All transactions are subject to the Schools' Terms and Conditions which are available upon request. Attendance at class implies acceptance of these.

## **CREDIT / DEBIT CARD PAYMENTS**

The School is happy to accept credit and debit card payments for termly fees and examinations. Provision is made on invoices for the necessary information to be supplied by card holders.

## **PAYMENT BY STANDING ORDER**

Once an account has been established it is possible to pay the year's fees in nine equal monthly payments via a standing order arrangement. This commences on 1<sup>st</sup> October each year, with any outstanding balance being settled at the end of the academic year, in July.

## **CECCHETTI ASSOCIATES 2011/12**

Marsha Bryenton  
Hannah Tomlinson-Roe  
Emily Walter

## **CECCHETTI SCHOLARS 2011/12**

Michael Preston

## **STUDENTS IN VOCATIONAL TRAINING**

Samuel Hindmarsh	3rd Year	Tring Park School
Claudia Hughes	2nd Year	Urdang Academy
Natasha Hoare	3rd Year	Tiffany Theatre College
Charlotte Kingston	3rd Year	Tring Park (Lower) School
Ryan Lay	2nd Year	Italia Conti Academy of Theatre Arts
Sophie Middlebrook	4th Year	The Royal Ballet (Lower) School
Dylan Price	4th Year	Elmhurst (Lower) School for Dance
Jessica Smart	2nd Year	KS Dance

## **MABEL RYAN AWARDS**

Sarah Holden - winner Silver Medal - 1992  
Amanda Bellamy - winner Gold Medal - 1993  
Belinda Oddy - winner Bronze Medal - 1998  
Belinda Oddy - winner Silver Medal - 1999  
Joe Turner - runner-up Silver Medal - 2000  
Lucy Durno - winner Silver Medal - 2001  
Beinda Oddy - runner-up Gold Medal - 2002  
Lucy Durno - runner-up Gold Medal - 2002  
Samuel Hindmarsh - runner-up Lower Bronze Medal - 2003  
Jessica Gosling - runner-up Lower Bronze Medal - 2003  
Jessica Smart - runner-up Bronze Medal - 2004  
Naomi Esser - runner-up Bronze Medal - 2005  
Jessica Smart - winner Silver Medal - 2006  
Dylan Price - winner Lower Bronze Medal - 2007  
Naomi Esser - runner-up Silver Medal - 2007  
Joanne Quinney - winner Silver Medal - 2008  
Eleanor Austin - runner-up Silver Medal - 2008

## **VACANI AWARDS**

Naomi Esser - runner-up Junior Award - 2003  
Jessica Smart - runner-up Junior Award - 2004  
Jessica Gosling - runner-up Junior Award - 2005  
Jessica Smart - winner Middle Award - 2005  
Naomi Esser - runner-up Middle Award - 2007  
Jessica Golsing - winner Middle Award - 2008  
Naomi Esser - winner Senior Award - 2008  
Jessica Smart - runner-up Senior Award - 2008

## ABOUT BALLET

Ballet, using a strict dance technique which has evolved over the past five centuries, is united with music, decor and costume to create works of dramatic, lyric or pure dance interest. Strictly, the word ballet should relate only to works in the classic style but in recent years, with the increasing combination of classical ballet and freer contemporary techniques, it has come to be used to describe almost any theatrical dance arrangement.

Ballet traces its history from the Renaissance spectacles which combined music, singing, poetry, dancing and decoration - an amalgamation of all of the arts. From Italy it moved to France and found its popularity in the French courts, especially under Louis XIV. Then it entered the professional theatre and the dancing masters of the 18th Century gradually established it as entertainment in its own right. By the early 19th Century Blasis had codified technique and by the Romantic era ballet had arrived in much the form we know. Later, it flowered in Russia and was then revitalized in the West. By the middle of the 20th Century, what had initially been a diversion for the nobility had become popular worldwide.

\* \* \* \* \*

The disciplinary training of Classical Ballet provides the student with improved posture and a control of mind and body beneficial to health, physique and artistic appreciation. With regular classes a child will develop his natural co-ordination of movement and musicality and will gain confidence in his own abilities which will be beneficial in everyday life. Students may commence their ballet training from the age of 3 years.

## THE CECCHETTI METHOD

Several syllabi exist for the training of dancers: Royal Academy of Dancing (RAD), Imperial Ballet (ISTD), British Ballet Organisation (BBO) etc. The Weston School teaches the Cecchetti Method, a method of training developed by Enrico Cecchetti in the late 19th Century. Born in Italy in 1850, the son of two dancers, Cecchetti migrated to St. Petersburg where he joined the Imperial Russian Ballet and created the virtuoso role of the Bluebird and the mime role of Carabosse in the première of *The Sleeping Beauty* in 1890. He also taught many Maryinsky dancers including Pavlova, Karsarvina and Nijinsky.

In 1909 he joined Diaghilev's 'Ballet Russe' as a teacher and mime artist. He was recognised as the greatest teacher of his day and his pupils included Alicia Markova, Ninette de Valois, Marie Rambert and Léonide Massine. Cecchetti had trained under Lepri, a pupil of Blasis, whose ideas were developed further by Cecchetti who grouped the classical vocabulary into six sets of exercises, one for each day of the working week.

Cecchetti's work was recorded and published in 1922 by Cyril Beaumont who was instrumental in founding the Cecchetti Society for the preservation and promotion of the Maestro's work. In 1924 the Cecchetti Society became affiliated to the Imperial Society of Teachers of Dancing.

The continuing importance and value of this method is summed up by one of today's leading ballerinas, Miss Darcey Bussell of the Royal Ballet, who has said " The Cecchetti work has given me strength, discipline and co-ordination. It wasn't until I got into the Company that I realised how lucky I was to have had that training".

The Cecchetti Society's syllabi of graded examinations for both children and vocational students are based on the principles of Cecchetti's teaching and is continually updated to remain relevant to today's student. This work will ensure that students will receive a sound training.

# JAZZ DANCE

Jazz Dance was developed - like Jazz music - by the American Negroes, who took African dance techniques, based on the isolation of individually moving parts of the human body, and adapted them to the needs of their new social surroundings.

The name of Jazz first appeared around 1917. After this, during the 1920's, Jazz was eagerly taken up by the whites and since then has been introduced into the various forms of show business today.

Jazz now makes up the greatest percentage of commercial dance in television and show business, and therefore is vital in the training of the "all round performer". For the student who dances for pleasure, both children and adults alike, it is the best way to stretch and tone muscles, substantially improve co-ordination and improve those dance skills to the best of the latest music.

# MODERN THEATRE DANCE

"Modern Dance is not so much a system or technique as an attitude towards dance."

Jack Anderson - Dance Critic New York Times

Modern dance styles of today began to develop in the early Twentieth Century as a reflection of Classical Ballet. Finding the technique of ballet very confining, many dancers broke away and began to develop their own styles of dance.

As a result of this we now have many variations on Modern Dance in this country, many complimentary to classical technique and some rather contradictory! However, the most important and successful style in the training and development of children is that of the Imperial Society of Teachers of Dancing (ISTD).

The Modern Theatre Dance syllabus of the ISTD, including Tap Dance, is aimed at developing a child alongside a good Classical Ballet training. This systemised dance style gives enjoyment and fun to the dance student whilst relieving the child of the technical confines of Ballet. The principles of Modern Dance technique are developed at a young age, making Modern Theatre Dance the perfect compliment to Classical Ballet training. Students may commence training in Modern Theatre and Tap dancing from the age of 4½ years.

## MUSICAL THEATRE

Musical Theatre is the coming together of a number of performing skills: singing, acting and dance. Watch any West End musical and there you have it - Musical Theatre. But whether the aim is to appear in *Grease*, or merely to enjoy the company of other like-minded people, Musical Theatre classes will develop confidence and improve self esteem which will help in all walks of life.

The Weston School's Musical Theatre classes are drama based. Students learn to work together, building characters and utilising expressions and mime; they learn stage craft and to use props; to act to music and to move, if not dance; they sing together, and on their own. They grow . . .

Students are accepted for Musical Theatre training from the age of 6 years.

## HIP-HOP

Created by American-Africans, notably from *The Bronx* in New York, Hip-Hop emerged in the 1970's. Today it incorporates old and new urban dance styles with influences also from martial arts and gymnastics as well as funk street styles which originated in California.

Fast-moving and energetic, you should come prepared to do some breaking, bopping, locking, roboting, hitting, bustin', strutting, sac-ing, dime-stopping, boogaloo . . . or, in short, to have fun!

# BIOGRAPHIES

## **ELISABETH SWAN, FISTD, Enrico Cecchetti Diploma, CICB**

### ***Principal and Partner***

Elisabeth has been with the school, as student and teacher, for nearly fifty years, training for two years at the Royal Ballet School with whom she appeared in Rudolf Nureyev's "The Nutcracker". In addition to her commitments with the school, she was Artistic Director of the Chelmsford Ballet Company from 1981 to 1999, and was choreographer of the local professional pantomime from the late 1970's until 2006. She has danced extensively throughout the U.K. and has appeared on film and television with the Chelmsford Dancers.

Elisabeth is much sought after as a guest teacher, lecturer and adjudicator, and is organiser of the annual Cecchetti International Teachers' Summer School held in Chichester. She was appointed an examiner for the ISTD in 1995 and examines children's work, Vocational Graded and teachers' qualifying candidates throughout the UK and Europe and, more recently, the Far East. Also in 1995 she was awarded the Margaret Marsh Scholarship to attend the annual summer seminar of the Cecchetti Council of America in Michigan.

She is a Trustee of the ISTD; Chairman of the Cecchetti Society Classical Ballet Faculty committee; member of the ISTD Theatre Faculties Board, ISTD Dance Teachers' Benevolent Fund, and the Cecchetti Society Trust; co-organiser of the prestigious Cecchetti Classical Ballet Awards and was, for two years, administrative director of the Cecchetti Centre, London of which she is now the financial administrator.

## **GEOFF WHEATLEY, *Business Manager and Partner***

Geoff provides Production Management, Stage & Workshop staff, and support services through his company, TheatreServe. His major client is Newpalm Productions with whom he has worked for more than 30 years. Geoff's experience includes national and international tours, summer seasons, West End, trade shows and exhibitions. Geoff's most memorable projects include a highly successful production of **Sweeny Todd** in the open-air theatre at London's Holland Park and the National tours of **Lanza the Last Serenade**, **Hen Party**, **Scissor Happy** and **Ladies' Night** as well as **Evita** in concert.

Geoff's greatest achievement to date has been as production manager for the highly acclaimed **Les Misérables** concert which formed part of the Chelmsford Spectacular. He was responsible for co-ordinating the work of 200 artistes, a creative team in excess of 40 together with more than 30 technical and support staff who between them produced a concert that delighted an audience of 18,000.

**RUTH FARRIN, BA Hons, AISTD, CICB**

*(Modern, Tap, Jazz & Ballet)*

***Head of Modern & Tap***

Ruth trained with the Weston Schools and was an assistant teacher for three years. She has danced in pantomime at the Chelmsford Civic Theatre for many years and holds major examinations in Cecchetti Ballet, Modern Theatre, Tap and National Dancing. In 1999 Ruth gained her Associate teaching qualification in both Cecchetti Classical Ballet and Modern Theatre Dance. In September of that year she started a 3-year Dance Degree course at Middlesex University, where she gained her Associate teaching qualification in National Dancing, and a BA(Hons) degree in Dance.

**RUTH DAVIES, BA Hons, FISTD, RAD RTS**

*(Contextual Studies)*

Ruth hails from Essex and holds her Associate teaching qualification in Ballet, Modern and National Dancing. She read for her BA Hons degree in Dance at London College of Dance in Middlesex which she gained with a 2.1. Since that time she has choreographed and produced a number of shows for Theatre Schools and has taught most dance styles. She currently runs her own dance school in Hertfordshire and is an ISTD Approved Tutor for the Foundation In Dance Instruction (units 2, 3 and 6) and the Certificate in Dance Education (units 5 and 8).

**TRACY FRITSCHY, AISTD, CICB**

*(Pilates)*

Tracy's early training was at The Weston School of Dancing before gaining a place at Laine Theatre Arts, Surrey. During her second year of training she achieved Ballet, National, Modern and Tap Associate teaching qualifications with Distinction and was consequently awarded the college diploma with the same. In her final year she was asked to teach for the college, assisted in the Christmas production in her role as head girl, and also appeared in various fashion shows, hair shows and cabarets.

Upon leaving college Tracy taught for a short while at The Weston before going to dance on cruise ships. After five years with the Cunard Line she returned home to train as a fitness instructor and personal trainer. Having later qualified as a Pilates instructor she has now been teaching this for the last eight years. Tracy finds great pleasure to be connected with The Weston once again.

**LINDA ISAACS, FISTD, CDE, CICB**

*(Ballet)*

Linda's early training was in Buckinghamshire but, after dancing professionally in the UK and Europe, she returned to England, married and moved to Essex where she resumed her training. She ran her own school for eighteen years and also taught for TheatreTrain and Southend-on-Sea Arts Council. Wishing to specialise in teaching Ballet she took up the position of Head of Ballet at a local Performing Arts College and stage school before moving to The Weston.

Linda is a choreographer for local amateur dramatic groups and a guest teacher for the Cecchetti Society. She has been the recipient of the Peter Pearson and Betty Major Scholarships gifted by the Cecchetti Society and is a member of the Cecchetti Group. She is Cecchetti Area Organiser for the South East, and an ISTD children's examiner.

Pupils of Linda have been chosen to demonstrate at various Cecchetti events and many are now working in West End theatres, cruise ships, summer shows, pantomime and television.

**JESSICA MINTY, DDI** *(Modern, Tap, Jazz, Ballet & Musical Theatre)*

Born in Jersey Jessica moved to the UK in 2004 to further her dance training at Performers' College in Corringham, Essex. Prior to this she had gained teaching experience in dance and swimming, and choreographed a cabaret show for the Jersey Hospice. Upon leaving Performers' she performed in many cabarets in and around London, and toured as a dancer with Spirit Productions in Le Grand Cirque. Jessica also performed in the UK tour of the Musical "Singing in the Rain". Jessica is now living her life-long dream to teach Ballet, Modern Theatre Dance, Jazz, Tap, Hip-Hop and Musical Theatre to all ages. Jessica holds a Trinity College Diploma in Professional Dance, and is also a qualified Lifeguard.

**CHARLOTTE SKIPP** *(Ballet)*

Charlotte has undertaken most of her training in Norfolk where she has attained her Intermediate Cecchetti Classical Ballet qualification. She has gained several years experience in the teaching of young children and is working towards the next level of teaching qualifications.

**PENNY TAYLOR, FDI** *(Modern, Tap & Jazz)*

Penny's training at the Tiffany Theatre College covered a wide number of different dance genres including jazz, ballet, tap, contemporary, modern and lindihip. She regularly performed in college productions and, since leaving, has gained experience in the commercial world. She has danced in several summer seasons and in Paris with Disney, and has appeared in three Bollywood films on location in Mumbai, India and Café de Paris in London. Penny has wide experience in the teaching of all age groups, concentrating mainly on Modern Theatre and Tap, and is currently working to enhance her teaching qualifications.

<p>School Office</p> <p>28 Prykes Drive CHELMSFORD Essex CM1 1TP</p> <p>Tel: (01245) 287638 Fax: (01245) 494000 Email: office@ theweston.co.uk</p>	<p>Office Hours</p> <p>10.00 am to 1.00 pm</p> <p>Every weekday morning</p> <p><b>Personal callers by appointment only.</b></p>	<p>Answerphone</p> <p>When leaving messages on the School's answerphone, please state clearly your name and telephone number, together with a brief description of your enquiry</p>
--	---	---

## INSURANCE

All students are insured whilst taking part in classes organised by the School. This does not extend to property, therefore the School can accept no responsibility for personal property and recommend that valuables are not brought to class.