



Imperial Society of Teachers of Dancing

Teaching resources – online or in the studio

Online or not online that is the question... Whilst we wait and watch for further updates, no doubt you are questioning the 'what if's' for your own business.

'What if my area is locked down and I cannot open my dance school?'

'What if I need to close due to infection and quarantine?'

'What if I get sick and cannot work?'

There are probably many more 'what if's' that make this whole situation quite challenging at present so we would like to offer some ideas for keeping your business going during this time.

Online delivery

Many of you ventured into online delivery during lock down. During our webinars many teachers discussed the success of online classes and reflected on how they might keep some of the best parts of this going in the future.

Whilst many teachers are starting to return to the studio, you may want to consider keeping some classes online to give yourself some flexibility of delivery. This will also ensure that you remain agile for changing circumstances and that your pupils/students are able to adapt quickly.

There are a range of ways to do this and below are some suggestions for those who would like a guide:

- Alternating classes – one week online – one week in studio - therefore minimizing the number you have in your premises each week.
- Creating a blend of online and studio for a particular group every week on a regular basis.
- Continue with online for big groups that you cannot have in the studio at any one time or where you may have concerns regarding some vulnerable children who may be shielding.
- Pre-record some sessions so you have some banked up and ready for changing circumstances - or to just give your students additional tuition to catch up from missed classes.
- Work with students in the studio but continue to keep some online communication going so that they are ready to return to online classes, if necessary.

There are lots more ideas for digital delivery in the latest edition of DANCE issue 490.

Some dance teachers have also suggested joining forces so that you support one another with online delivery and sharing curriculum. Whilst this may be complex financially and competitively, it could be a way of supporting each other by merging some elements if there are benefits to both parties.

For those in the studio be sure to keep up dating your COVID risk assessment and ensure that you are protecting yourself and others. It is very easy to become complacent and also difficult for children to understand why we must continue our practice in this way.

In the meantime, we will continue to try and update you over the coming weeks and months. Remember too that we are here to support you as a membership organization, so please do get in touch if you have questions or ideas to support other members.