



The Mark of Quality Teaching

There have never been so many online dance classes to choose from. But as a parent, how do you know that your children are being taught well, and in a safe environment? The Imperial Society of Teachers of Dancing have put together a helpful checklist of things to consider when selecting your online class provider.

Look for a Qualified Teacher

- The teacher should have completed an initial teaching qualification with a validated teaching society. The Imperial Society of Teachers of Dancing is validated by **CDMT** (www.cdmf.org.uk) and regulated by **Ofqual** (www.gov.uk/government/organisations/ofqual)
- A qualified teacher with an established business should take the time and care to have a brief chat with you to find out about your child.
- You should be advised as to the right class for your child's ability, needs and interest.
- The teacher should know who is in their class and has checked all potential newcomers.

Why is a qualified teacher important?

- A qualified teacher will be a safe teacher who has knowledge and understanding of the needs and abilities of the children they teach
- A qualified teacher will have met the professional standards for delivering a class to children.
- A qualified teacher will be able to demonstrate knowledge of their legal responsibilities and will have their policies displayed on their website.
- A qualified teacher will have passed and demonstrated through practical examinations their knowledge and detail of the Society's syllabus.

“You make progress with a Qualified Imperial Society of Teacher of Dancing”

Look for a safe online environment

- The online class should not be open to the general public, but available only to those who have signed up to the class via a private link through the qualified teacher.
- There should be a waiting room so that the teacher has control of who is allowed into the class.
- The teacher should 'lock' the virtual class so that no other participants can join after it has started.
- The private chat should be disabled, and the class should be for dancing only.

“The mark of a good class – safe and engaging creative content”

Look for high quality delivery

- There should be a controlled number of participants in the class, we recommend no more than 20.
 - The class should have a warm-up and cool-down and regular reminders about working safely in the space.
 - The language used within the class should be encouraging and inspiring.
 - The class should enable your child to engage with the learning of dance and have fun creatively and safely.



Make sure you know who's teaching your child. Look for the mark of quality teaching – find out more and discover your nearest Imperial Society of Teachers of Dancing teacher
www.istd.org/coronavirus-guidance/guidance-for-parents/

Remember good quality teaching takes time, experience and preparation; online teaching should not always be free. Support your dance teacher and dance school by continuing to pay for lessons.