



## **Ballet Futures: Pipeline Project Auditions Application Guidelines and Programme Information**

Please find below further information about ENB Ballet Futures, the application process and audition workshop for prospective young dancers to join us in September 2025.

### **Ballet Futures – Overview**

Ballet Futures: The Pipeline Project is a children's training programme that encourages and incentivises dancers from traditionally underrepresented groups in ballet (African Diaspora, Caribbean, South Asian and Southeast Asian heritage) to participate in sustained professional ballet training from the earliest possible point.

### **What do we understand as underrepresented groups?**

For this particular project, we are understanding underrepresented groups within Classical Ballet to speak to children from African Diaspora, Caribbean, South Asian and South East Asian heritage.

It is important to note that children from East Asian heritage, such as China, Japan, Korea, Taiwan or Hong Kong are not eligible.

However, if a child is of dual (Asian) heritage (1 parent/guardian from Southeast Asia and 1 parent/guardian from East Asian heritage) then they may be considered. For clarity, please note the following list of the main Southeast Asian countries; Vietnam, Philippines, Laos, Cambodia, Singapore, Malaysia, Thailand, Myanmar (Burma) and Brunei.

### **Training**

Run in association with 5 dance schools nationwide, this platform provides gifted and talented young dancers aged 8 and above the training and space to grow into their potential as young artists.

If offered a place on the programme, you would take weekly classes at one of our five associated Ballet Futures Schools. We would select the school best suited to your and in most cases closest traveling distance. Our Associated schools are:

Adagio School of Dance, Brentwood  
Dupont Dance Stage School, Leicester  
Spotlight Stage School, Birmingham  
Viv'Art Movement Academy, East London  
West London School of Dance, Shepards Bush, London

As a Ballet Futures recipient you will receive:

1. The Ballet Futures and associated schools provide the training for the dancers (two ballet classes per week) free of charge to the dancer.
2. A termly uniform bursary is provided for each dancer to equip themselves with all the attire that they will be requiring for their journey (ballet tights, leotards, ballet shoes/pointe shoes)

3. Performance opportunities with English National Ballet (by selection)
4. Annual Visits to English National Ballet, Mulryan Centre for Dance
5. Unique close access to English National Ballet Company and Dancer
6. Two Complimentary Theatre Tickets to see English National Ballet or other Ballet companies each term.
7. Travel and hotel accommodation costs covered to support you travel to London for programmed visits where required
8. Hotel accommodation, where required for Visits to London for programmed activity.
9. Group coaching and 1-1 annual reviews and reports.
10. Two School workshops visits
11. Termly Observations from Ballet Futures Team
12. Continuous pastoral support and careers advice for families during your membership
13. Access to English National Ballet's Digital - Ballet Active classes.

### **Theatre Trips**

Ballet Futures team arrange one theatre trip per term for the dancers and a parent/ carer.

These trips normally take place at one of London's prestigious theatres such as the London Coliseum, Sadler's Wells, or the Royal Albert Hall, as well as theatres local to you.

Where possible we also incorporate special elements to the trip such as meeting the company dancers for a Q&A session. On special occasions with schedules permitting, we have access to observing the company dancers in their daily class on stage, ahead of their performance.

### **Performance Opportunities**

Ballet Futures is able to offer some of our dancers professional performing opportunities in English National Ballet's productions such as *Raymonda*, *Cinderella* in-the-round at the Royal Albert Hall, the Nutcracker. Most recently three Ballet futures dancers and two alumni were selected alongside more dancers from one of our associated schools, Adagio School of Dance, to perform in ENB's recent reimagined production of *Nutcracker* at the London Coliseum, choreographed by Aaron S Watkins and Arielle Smith.

### **Experience Days**

The dancers are invited to Mulryan Centre for Dance, home of English National Ballet in London, where they have the unique opportunity to meet the dancers from the company and enjoy a Q&A session, where they get to ask the dancers about their dance journeys and lives as ballet dancers.

They also get to observe the dancers in their daily company class, company rehearsals, and also get to take class themselves with industry professionals from diverse backgrounds/ENB company dancers. The Ballet Futures dancers and their parents/carers get to visit the different departments that all work to produce the spectacular performances that the dancers will get to witness throughout the year.

### **School Visits**

Ballet Futures team delivers two visits per year to each of our associated schools. During visits we offer a programme of activity that may consist of;

- A Ballet class taught by industry professionals from the demographics that we are seeking, such as African Diaspora, Caribbean, South Asian & Southeast Asian backgrounds.

- A Repertoire session taught by ENB Company dancers & also industry professionals from underrepresented groups.
- A Ballet History & Black/Asian Ballet History research task/sharing.
- Group Coaching and Target setting sessions with Michelle Ballentyne, Lead Artist Ballet Futures.

The visits are delivered to the whole school so that all the students can benefit from some of the opportunities that Ballet Futures has to offer.

### **Graduating/Success Stories**

We are a new project; however, Ballet Futures dancers have already moved on to train at Elmhurst, London Vocational Ballet School, and the Royal Ballet School. We hope to encourage and mentor dancers as they take their next steps into future training, wherever that may be.

### **Ballet Futures – Annual Cohort**

Ballet Futures follows an academic year of the associate school they are attending. Times/dates of training are determined by associate dance schools. The cohort of dancers are regularly observed and monitored to ensure their training is progressing well. Dancers' continuation in the programme is dependent on progression assessed during formal visits.

### **Core Dates for 2025/2026**

Dates are subject to change and are normally shared with our cohort once an offer of a place is confirmed.

Autumn Term 2025 - 1 Sep – 20 Dec  
 School Visits: 1 Oct – 8 Oct  
 Observational Visits: 4 Nov – 18 Nov  
 Theatre Trip: Sat 20 Dec - ENB, London TBC

Winter/Spring Term 2026: 5 Jan – 28 Mar 2026  
 School Visits: 15 Jan – 8 Feb  
 Observational Visits: 3 Mar – 24 Mar  
 Theatre Trip: Dates TBC

Summer Term 2026: 1 Apr – 31 July 2026  
 1-1 End of year meetings: 22 Apr – 8 May  
 Experience Day: Sat 13 June, ENB London  
 Observational Visits: 30 Jun – 28 Jul  
 Theatre Trip: Dates TBC

### **Registration Form**

Dancers who would like to attend the Ballet Futures audition workshop must complete [the application form here](#).

Registration for the Audition Workshop close on Wednesday 21 May 2025, 12 noon. Registrations received after this date and time cannot be considered.

Registration forms must be completed. If you have any problems, please email to [balletfutures@ballet.org.uk](mailto:balletfutures@ballet.org.uk) with the subject line '**Ballet Futures APPLICATION FORM**'.

Your registration will not be complete until you have submitted a passport photo to us at [balletfutures@ballet.org.uk](mailto:balletfutures@ballet.org.uk)

Dancers will be notified and invites to the audition workshop confirmed, no later than Tuesday 3 June by email.

### **Accessibility**

Dancers who identify as having an access need and wish to submit a video response, please email [balletfutures@ballet.org.uk](mailto:balletfutures@ballet.org.uk) for further details.

## **Audition Workshop**

The Ballet Futures Audition Workshops will take place at associate schools. Invited applicants will only be requested for one of those dates.

- **Sunday 8 June at English National Ballet**, Mulryan Centre for Dance, 41 Hopewell Square, London E14 0SY
- **Sunday 6 July at Dupont Dance Stage School**, Memory Lane, Leicester, LE1 3UL

Dancers will take part in a fun 30-minute ballet session and a 30-minute creative workshop. Lasting 1 hour in total. There will be a small panel of artists, observing the workshop. Normally no more than 4.

Dancers and their grownups are also invited to take part in an information talk, to learn more about the programme with an opportunity for you to ask any questions you may have. You may also be invited to a Zoom interview the **w/c 14 July 2025** between the times of 16.00 - 18.00.

Dancers should bring clothing appropriate for both ballet and contemporary classes, along with warm layers. **NO** pointe shoes, just soft ballet shoes. If you do not have ballet shoes, socks are permitted at the Barre only. You can wear soft ballet shoes for the creative session or bare feet. We encourage dancers to wear skin tone ballet tights and soft shoes.

Dancers should ensure that they bring plenty of water and a packed lunch.

Dancers will be notified no later than **Friday 21 July** whether they are invited to the Ballet Futures Cohort 2025-26 by email.

Dancers must respond to cohort invites no later than **31 July 2025**

## **Fees**

Ballet Futures is funded. The class fees for your two classes per week, at the allocated Ballet Futures Associated school will be paid for. Your travel costs to theatre trips and trips to London (including any hotel stays where needed) will be paid for. Your uniform costs at your school will be paid for and managed by the associated school. You will need to pay for your travel, to and from your weekly classes.

## **How many spaces are available?**

The number of spaces available can vary year on year. For 2025-26 intake, Ballet Futures may have spaces for 4 - 6 dancers for the 2025-26 cohort.

If you have any further questions regarding Ballet Futures, the application or audition process, please visit [www.ballet.org.uk/balletfutures](http://www.ballet.org.uk/balletfutures) or email [balletfutures@ballet.org.uk](mailto:balletfutures@ballet.org.uk).