The Rockhampton Grammar School Dance and Musical Theatre Academy provides boys and girls aged from 3 years, a unique opportunity to combine academic and dancing pursuits. Girls and boys can integrate their academic studies at The Rockhampton Grammar School with their dance, vocal and speech & drama instruction, at a level of detail that is not available anywhere else in Central Queensland. The Academy is open to the whole community and accepts students who do not attend RGS as well as students who do attend the school. The Academy's goal is for Central Queensland children to develop expertise in several genres of dance, including musical theatre. The programs on offer will enable students to go beyond the technical side of dance and give students a wider, deeper understanding of movement, with the Academy aiming to develop programs that study anatomy, dance history, composition, choreography, improvisation and performance quality. The Academy offers excellence in personal tuition tailored for the individual and fosters a disciplined, positive and supportive environment, allowing students to excel at the same time as experiencing the love and enjoyment of performing. Students enjoy programs that promote healthy living, confidence, self-esteem, important thinking skills as well as gaining a sense of coordination, rhythm, musicality, style and a chance to make lifelong friendships with the other members of the Academy. The Academy looks forward to welcoming you to the Grammar family.
beginners

Students aged 3 or 4 years of age can choose to enrol in the following classes: Preliminary Ballet, Pre-Primary Tap, Pre-Primary Jazz, Preliminary Highland. These classes offer our very young students some basic dance technique, whilst fostering a love and enjoyment of dance and performing. Students can enrol in other types of classes when they turn 5 as of the start of the calendar year (1 January).

classical ballet

As ballet is at the core of every dance style, RAD Classical Ballet classes teach students deportment, turn out, discipline, core body strength and classical technique. Some Character (National) work is also taught throughout various grades of the RAD syllabus. Open classes are offered at three levels (Junior, Intermediate, Senior) with graded classes offered to the more serious classical ballet dancer from Pre-Primary to Major Grades, with pointe work offered to eligible students as they progress through the Major Grades. Classical Ballet is highly encouraged for the more serious dancer/performer. Private classes may be arranged and are subject to availability.

contemporary/free movement

These two dance styles draw upon concepts of classical and modern dance. Free movement is the chance for the dancer to take classical dance technique and apply more free flowing, lyrical movements. Contemporary dance classes explore more abstract concepts combined with dance. Classes are offered at three levels (Junior, Intermediate, Senior) with a change throughout the year to explore two terms of free movement and two terms of contemporary dance.
highland
Scottish Highland Dancing has a history and tradition spanning back centuries. This highly energetic and technically exciting dance form allows students to combine good technique, stamina and strength of footwork, upper body, arm and hand movements. Classes are offered for NDAA examinations, competitions and recreational dancing.

tap
Tap dancing is one of those art forms that allows a dancer to explore their creativity with movements and rhythms. This popular dance style covers a range of styles from traditional tap to the more modern tap style being presented by leading tap companies around the world. Open classes are offered at three levels (Junior, Intermediate, Senior) with ADA Syllabus classes offered to the more serious tap dancer from Primary to Majors. Private classes may be arranged and are subject to availability.

jazz
Jazz classes focus on building flexibility and strength as well as learning jazz technique. Through the use of modern music, students explore movements requiring core strength, flexibility, dynamic presentation and high energy. Open classes are offered at three levels (Junior, Intermediate, Senior) with ADA Syllabus classes offered to the more serious jazz dancer from Primary to Majors. Private classes may be arranged and are subject to availability.

hip hop/ commercial dance
A major influence to dance in recent years has been the expansion of hip hop and commercial dance styles. This type of dance has a myriad of styles and has become incredibly popular on social media and television through programs such as ‘So You Think You Can Dance’. These fun and highly energetic classes are offered as open classes in three levels (Junior, Intermediate, Senior).
musical theatre

A feature of the Academy is the provision of professional tuition in musical theatre, which includes song, dance and cabaret styles. Students participate in exciting and creative classes focusing on performance involving acting, singing and dancing. Tuition is provided by a specialist vocal/drama teacher as well as a specialist dance teacher. Various styles of musical theatre are explored, featuring popular musicals from Broadway and West End. Open classes are offered at three levels (Junior, Intermediate, Senior).
conditioning

An important part of all dance styles is the strengthening and conditioning of the body to be able to execute a wide range of movements. In this open class, students are taught important and safe strengthening and conditioning exercises to help increase core strength, stamina, balance and flexibility. This class is highly encouraged, especially for the more serious dancer, to improve their flexibility and strength across all dance forms.

choreography

This fun, open class allows the performer to explore their own creativity in various dance forms. Throughout the year, the student learns about dance composition and explores this through guided choreography, own choreography and improvisation. Students in this class also get the opportunity to work on improvisation dance skills for eisteddfods.

adult

At DMTA, classes are not just for children and the Academy recognises the love of performing is enjoyed by people of all ages. Adult classes are offered in the following styles: Adult Dance (ballet barre, cabaret/ jazz/ musical theatre), Adult Tap, Adult Hip Hop, Commercial Dance and Adult Contemporary.
speech & drama

The Academy offers professional Speech & Drama lessons in various levels under the AMEB syllabus, covering all levels and strands of the syllabus. The classes provide students with a wonderful opportunity to explore the world of drama and public speaking. Concepts covered include voice techniques, interpreting skills, monologues, duologues, poetry, mime, improvisation, characterisation and role-playing, to name a few. These classes along with the musical theatre, vocal and dance classes, aim at producing performers who are ‘Triple Threats’, skilled in the areas of dance, vocal and drama. Group Drama classes are offered at three levels (Junior, Intermediate, Senior) with individual Speech & Drama lessons subject to availability. (Note: RGS students apply through the RGS Music Department for private Speech & Drama classes.)

vocal

Professional, private, individual vocal classes are also on offer and are subject to availability. The classes teach correct voice technique and help the student to explore the various singing styles from classical to modern. Vocal training at DMTA along with classes taken in dance and drama, provide students with skills in dance, voice and acting, helping to create that ‘triple threat’ performer. (Note: RGS students apply through the RGS Music Department for private vocal classes.)

examinations, eisteddfod, performances, seminars, workshops and dance tours

For the more serious student, examinations are offered in RAD Classical Ballet, ADA Tap, ADA Jazz, NDAA Highland, AMEB Speech & Drama and AMEB Vocal. These examinations are not compulsory and are offered to students who the teacher feels would benefit and who are ready for such endeavours. Students wishing to sit for Classical Ballet, Tap and Jazz examinations are required to take two classes per week in the respective style. Students sitting for Vocational Levels in RAD Ballet, are also required to take a third Mapars Class each week. Please see the Head of Dance for details.

The Academy also enters the annual Rockhampton Eisteddfod in Dance, Vocal and Speech & Drama sections. Students may be invited to enter the local eisteddfod as part of solo, duo, trio or group items. Entry is by invitation only.

Performances exist each year for all members of the Academy. Every second year a major production involving all members of the Academy is staged at the Pilbeam Theatre with every other year offering a Presentation Evening to parents and family members, to showcase what has been prepared in weekly classes.

Throughout each year, various seminars and workshops are held for students of the Academy. These may be for RAD, ADA, NDAA and AMEB examination students and also open seminars/workshops for all members of DMTA. This allows the students to work with national and international professionals.

Every four years the Academy offers some students the chance to be involved in national or international dance tours, offering students the chance to perform nationally or overseas and to engage in workshops and experiences with professionals in the industry.
The Rockhampton Grammar School Dance and Musical Theatre Academy has the following terms and conditions in place to ensure its smooth running for all members.

1. Students will gain enrolment at DMTA if there is availability in the nominated class and if they are at least 3 years of age. If there is no availability, students will be placed on a waiting list and will be notified once a place becomes available. Enrolment in the Academy is gained once the enrolment form is completed and received by the school and after an interview has occurred with the Head of Dance.

2. Students are not permitted to learn dance from another teacher or dance school if that style of dance is offered at the Academy.

3. Some classes (not including examination grade classes) may not be offered until an appropriate number of students have enrolled in the class. In the instance, students will be placed on a waiting list and then notified when the class becomes available.

4. Members of the Academy shall attend all classes and rehearsals unless the teacher is notified of the absence. Prior notice would be appreciated, especially for pre-known absences. Classes not attended will still be paid for by the parent of the student. The student may wish to attend another class in lieu of the class missed. To do this, the parent must inform the Head of Dance about which class this will be. Students who consistently do not attend performance, examination or competition rehearsal classes will jeopardise their position in such endeavours.

5. Members shall abide by the Academy’s dress regulations (see further information in this prospectus) and wear the correct dance attire to every class, workshop, seminar and theatre rehearsal. It is also expected that students wear the Academy uniform with pride to and from class and when representing the Academy. This rule regarding the Academy uniform does not apply to adult students taking the adult classes, or 3 and 4 year old students taking the Beginners Classes.

6. Fees will be calculated on a quarterly (term) basis, except for the case of examination entries, eisteddfod lessons, holiday classes and seminars which will be billed separately. Invoices will be issued at the beginning of each term and fees are to be paid by the due date on the invoice. Please refer to the Fee Schedule for terms and conditions and payment methods. If a lesson is cancelled by the Academy, or a student misses a class, the student is able to attend another class in the timetable to make up for this lesson. Please notify the Head of Dance regarding which class will be taken for the make-up class. Private classes cancelled by the teacher or missed by the student with prior notification, will be made up at a later date.

7. Members of the Academy at all times must exercise appropriate and respectful behaviour toward their fellow students, parents and teachers. This exemplary behaviour shall extend outside the classroom to general public areas including outside the school and around performing arts complexes such as the theatre. The Academy prides itself on well-disciplined and behaved students both in and out of class. The reputation of the Academy is based on the performance of its students, parents and teachers on and off the stage. Appropriate parent behaviour is also expected. This rule extends to the use of texting, Snapchat, and social networking sites such as Facebook if the content reflects negatively on the Academy and its members.

8. All dance routines and music arrangements (solos, duos, trios, groups) remain the property of The Rockhampton Grammar School. The Academy has no objections to students purchasing individual routines from outside choreographers, as long as the Head of Dance has been informed in advance and has given permission for this to occur.

9. Members are obliged to gain permission from the Head of Dance for the performing of any piece of work outside the studio at events such as eisteddfods, concerts, afternoon teas, fundraising events etc.

10. Group costumes will be purchased by the parent of the student involved in the group. These costumes are able to be sold onto future members of the group at a price negotiated between the parent selling the costume and the parent buying the costume. The Head of Dance or Teacher in charge of the group may be involved in this pricing decision to ensure fairness for all parties involved. Group costumes are not to be sold privately without the express permission of the Head of Dance.

11. Entry into eisteddfods and examinations is by invitation only. Members are liable for costs including lessons, theatre rehearsals, costumes, props and the applicable eisteddfod or examination entry fee. All costs will be provided in advance for members to make an informed decision.

12. No photography or filming shall be taken at the Academy’s rehearsal venues without the express permission of the Head of Dance or the teacher of the class. This includes sharing any videos or photos of students, parents or staff on Facebook and other social networking sites, if these are taken within the school and its rehearsal venues.

For the smooth running of the Academy and the opportunity for every student to access professional tuition in a safe, encouraging and family orientated environment, failure to meet the regulations may lead to termination of enrolment.