

Your schedule and details for the babyballet show!

The show is taking place at The Academy Theatre, Co-operative Academy Manchester, Plant Hill Road, Blackley, M9 0WQ on Sunday 19th May 2019.

Please read all the info below so you can be fully prepared on the day.

How do I get to the venue?

Please see accompanying sheet for information. There are three large free car parks at the scademy.. Follow the babyballet balloons!

What happens when we arrive at the theatre?

You will need to check your child in to start the process of getting them ready for the show. Please arrive promptly in the lobby of The Academy Theatre and allow extra time to get from the car park to the theatre as there is a very short walk.

Please bring your child, in their ballet shoes with their name in, and white frilly ankle socks, having been to the toilet, at the time below. If you are unsure which group your child is in, please check with your teacher in class.

- 2.30pm Zoo Animals
- 2.35pm Teddy Bear's Bedtime
- 2.45pm Princess Party
- 2.50pm Swans

You will need to sign your child in and will be given a babyballet ticket. After the show you will need this to check your child back out.

Children will be taken backstage and parents can enjoy refreshments for sale in the theatre.

What should my child be wearing?

Something loose fitting and easy to take off/put on so a loose dress or a t-shirt and leggings are great. Please put these on your child and put their white socks and ballet shoes on BEFORE you reach the check-in point. After check-in you will need keep hold of their outdoor shoes, coats and other belongings so we recommend you bring a carrier bag. Underwear should be as plain and pale in colour as possible.

Food, drinks, toys or any other belongings will not be permitted backstage to protect children with allergies and avoid prized possessions being lost or broken.

What about my child's hair?

Each group has a hair accessory or headband which work best when secured with hairgrips so please bring your child with their hair neatly in a bun, pony tail or plait to help us anchor the grips. For very short hair, please tie the top part up if possible.

Generally, if their hair is as neat and tidy as possible, it will look lovely on stage and for their photographs. We won't have time to do their hair backstage we so really appreciate your help.

Make up is not required.

What safety precautions are in place?

All the backstage area has been fully risk assessed for safety.

Your child will be looked after by licenced chaperones and babyballet staff and teachers, all of whom have an up to date DBS check. No other adults have access to the backstage area.

Regular toilet breaks and refreshment breaks are scheduled to keep the children safe and comfortable.

We have a rigid check-in/out process and will not permit children to leave with an unauthorised person, even if they are a family member.



What happens to my child once I've checked them in?

Under the supervision of their chaperones, children will be taken to their dressing rooms and helped into their costumes. The children will then have their photographs taken in costume by our professional photographer, Emma Finch, before taking part in activities, games and crafts backstage.

How long is the running time of the show?

The show lasts approximately 1 hour, although this of course will depend how quickly our little stars tiptoe into their places!

Can I take pictures/videos of my child during the show?

No. We do not allow photographs or video to be filmed during the performance. This is part of our safeguarding policy to protect any vulnerable children taking part. Please respect this so as not to cause undue stress and anxiety for your fellow parents.

Action shots of the show will be available to everyone after the show, once we have edited to protect any vulnerable children, or the children whose parents have elected not to have them filmed.

Are photographs available to purchase?

Yes! Professional portraits of your child in costume are also taken before the show and will be available to buy after the show.

Where and when do I collect my child?

After the children have completed the performance, they will be taken back to the dressing room and changed into the clothes they arrived in. They will then be brought to the Check-In/Out area where you dropped them off.

You will need to collect your child from here and sign them out.

The children will be checked-out in their groups in the order they are ready and your child's group will be announced. At the check-out area each child will be called by name for their adult to collect them.

We will try to be as speedy as possible but please be patient!

The process is smoother and faster if you can please:

Only come to check out when your child's group has been called

Only send 1 adult to check your child out

Wait for your child to be called in order (even if you can see them in the queue)

We know you'll be eager to see them but please do support us with this as we are anxious to follow the process as it is designed for speed but also to ensure the children's **safety.**

You will need the ticket we gave you at check in.

Without this we will not be able to check your child out unless the parent/carer who regularly brings them to class is confirmed by their class teacher.

As not all teachers are assigned to the check-out area this can be time consuming so those without tickets will be checked out last.

Thank you for reading the information above thoroughly to ensure smooth running on the day.

We hope you all enjoy the show and will be proud of your little superstars! We are all so proud of them already and want to say a MASSIVE thanks to all the babyballet grown-ups for your support in making this happen!



Plant Hill Road is accessed via the mini roundabout next to the pharmacy on Victoria Avenue. Follow the road until you reach the academy on your right.

Please access the car parks through gates 1 and 5 – marked in red circles on the map above.