



COVID-19 Examination Updates – June 2020

HQ Examinations office

We are operating with reduced staff and working hours at present and appreciate your patience when dealing with requests and enquiries. Please forward any general correspondence to exams@rad.org.uk

Examination services

Where possible, we are working towards resuming our normal 'live' examination service during scheduled sessions/tours for the remainder of 2020 while following government regulations and guidance. Where live examinations are not possible to facilitate, or where examination sessions were cancelled due to COVID-19 and cannot be rescheduled, there may be the option for teachers to film entries. Teachers should contact their local organisers in the first instance regarding what options may be available.

Examination/Class award option reminders

Graded Level

There are no prerequisites for our Graded examinations, Solo performance awards, Class awards and Presentation classes. If candidates have been previously working towards or entered for an Examination, the entry can be changed to a Class Award if this a more appropriate option under present circumstances.

Pianists for vocational graded examinations*

Teachers will not be required to use a pianist for their vocational examinations in AEC centers and for filmed examinations. In RAV centres, where possible, a pianist will be provided. If teachers are able to use a pianist, and would like to do so, we would of course encourage this.

To facilitate the Free enchaînement in 'live' examinations without a pianist at the relevant levels, teachers should provide access to the free music found on the official RAD Vocational CDs, associated with the level that is being examined.

Guidance for teachers regarding how to deliver the Free enchaînement in filmed examinations can be found in the filming guideline documents available from local offices.

***This hiatus will be in force from now until March 2021, at which time we will review.**

Class Award and Examination format adaptations

For the period of **June 2020-March 2021** inclusive, the following syllabus adaptations are permissible. These changes have been made to help minimise the preparation time for candidates and teachers in a period where learning times and environments may have been compromised due to COVID-19 social distancing measures.

Class Awards

Pre-Primary in Dance – Class Award

- The Warm-up, Cool-down and Imaginative Movement Sequence should be presented.
- Teachers may choose to present any 7 of the 9 set exercises.

Primary in Dance – Class Award

The following exercise choices are permitted at the teacher's discretion.

Technique 2	Bend and run OR Bend and point
Technique 4	TWO of the following exercises: Jumps Spring Hops, jumps and springs
Technique 5	Galops and skips OR Run and leap

Graded Examinations

Level	Exercise	Adaptations
Primary in Dance	Run and leap	One diagonal only – Teacher/candidate's choice
Grade 1	Step hop and parallel assemblé	One diagonal only – Teacher/candidate's choice
Grade 2	Turns and parallel assemblés	One side only – Teacher/candidate's choice
Grade 3	Grands battements A – devant OR Grands battements B – second and derrière Ronds de jambe à terre Glissades, sissonnes and assemblés Turns	Teacher/candidate's choice of exercise Teacher/candidate's choice of en dehors OR en dedans Teacher/candidate's choice of starting right OR left foot devant One diagonal only – Teacher/candidate's choice
Grade 4	Assemblés and temps levés	Teacher/candidate's choice of starting right OR left foot devant
Grade 5	Glissades and sissonnes Turns	Teacher/candidate's choice of starting right OR left foot devant One diagonal only – Teacher/candidate's choice
Grade 6	Battements frappés OR Demi-pointe enchaînement Pirouettes en dehors OR Pirouettes en dedans	Teacher/candidate's choice of exercise Teacher/candidate's choice of exercise

Vocational Graded Examinations

Level	Exercise	Adaptation
Intermediate Foundation (male/female)	Port de bras	Teacher/candidate's choice of starting right OR left foot devant
Intermediate (male/female)	Pirouettes en dedans and posé pirouettes (female) Relevés passés derrière OR Relevés passés devant (female) Allegro 5 (male)	Teacher/candidate's choice of starting side (corner 7 OR 8) Teacher/candidate's choice of exercise Performed one side only – Teacher/candidate's choice
Advanced Foundation (female)	Pirouettes (pointe work)	Teacher/candidate's choice of starting side (corner 7 OR 8)
Advanced I (male/female)	Port de bras Pirouette enchaînement Adage (female)	Teacher/candidate's choice of starting side – right OR left foot devant Teacher/candidate's choice of starting side – right OR left foot devant; Double pirouette en dehors finishing in <i>attitude derrière en croisé</i> OR 2 nd arabesque Teacher/candidate's choice of pivot en dehors in <i>arabesque</i> OR <i>attitude derrière</i>
Advanced 2 (female)	Port de bras Pirouette enchaînement Allegro 3	Teacher/candidate's choice of starting side – right OR left foot devant Teacher/candidate's choice of starting side – right OR left foot devant Teacher/candidate's choice of starting side – right OR left foot devant

Advanced 2 (male)	Port de bras	Teacher/candidate's choice of starting side – right OR left foot devant; Double pirouette en dedans in <i>attitude derrière</i> OR 1 st arabesque
	Battement fondus and ronds de jambe en l'air	Teacher/candidate's choice of starting side – right OR left foot devant; Double pirouette en dedans in <i>attitude derrière</i> OR 1 st arabesque
	Pirouette en dehors in attitude or arabesque	Teacher/candidate's choice of double pirouette en dehors in 2 nd arabesque OR <i>attitude derrière</i>
	Pirouette enchaînement	Teacher/candidate's choice of starting side – right OR left foot devant
	Allegro 4	Teacher/candidate's choice of starting side – right OR left foot devant

Further guidelines

- AEC – Where there is a choice of exercise or starting position, all candidates in the same set should perform the same setting when they are required to demonstrate the work all together or 2 x 2.
- RAV – where exercises are shown all together or 2 x 2 in sets with candidates from mixed schools, groupings in the examination will be adapted to facilitate the candidate's choice of starting foot.
- Candidates in the same set may choose different diagonals/sides to perform continuous 1 x 1 exercises.
- Reasonable adjustments to floor patterns exercises will be accepted if required to facilitate social distancing guidelines.
- There will be no change to the length of examinations.
- Should you have any questions about the adaptations, please contact your local office or the headquarters Examinations Department at exams@rad.org.uk

Social distancing guidelines for examinations

Teachers should follow local social distancing government guidance with regards to teaching and examinations. Reasonable measures to facilitate social distancing in examinations are permitted and will vary from country to country, school to school. The following are some suggestions of how social distancing can be incorporated into your examinations. If necessary, please liaise with your local office for further guidance specific to your area.

- Provision of hand sanitiser for candidates, music operators/pianists, teachers, parents and examiner. Regular hand washing should be encouraged at appropriate times e.g. during scheduled breaks. The use of gloves may be used, as required.
- Masks/face coverings may be worn by candidates, music operators/pianists, teachers and examiners if there is a personal preference or required by local law. If masks are worn by candidates, performance will be assessed via expression shown through the body including the eyes. All participants should be aware that verbal communication may be affected.
- The barre and floor surface may be sanitised between examination sets, as required.
- Positions at the barre and general dance space can be marked with tape to help candidates space their performance and waiting positions within social distancing guidelines.
- Examination group sizes may be reduced, if required to meet local social distancing guidelines. For example, a group of four could be divided to make two groups of two. Please liaise with the tour organiser in order to facilitate this. This may not be necessary in schools with larger sized studio spaces.
- Depending on local guidelines, teachers are advised to consider adapting their settings for the 'teacher arrangement' exercises found in Pre-Primary-Grade 5 to remove any physical contact between candidates e.g. handholding. As already permitted, the Grade 6 Character exercises may be performed 2 x 2 as two solos on the same side rather than working in opposition.
- The use of props is optional for the majority of settings. Where props are required for some Dances, we suggest candidates have their own personal props to avoid shared usage.
- Reasonable adjustments to floor patterns for exercises will be accepted if required to facilitate social distancing guidelines.
- Teachers may require candidates to arrive at the exam venue ready (wearing uniform, hair in bun etc...) to limit the amount of time/people in changing area.

- Separate entrance and exit pathways for venues/examination room could be employed, if there is the facility to do so.
- Extra time may be allowed for changeover between sets – teachers can add notes for this in their exam entry so that tour organisers can add additional breaks as required.
- Shared restroom facilities should be appropriately sanitised between usage.
- Single use candidate identification numbers may be used.
- Consider social distancing in the warm-up space or changing area – staggered arrival times to limit the number of people congregating. Markers on floor/cornered areas for warm up and changing areas and the use of personal yoga mats in shared warm up areas.
- Examiners will be updated regarding the local social distancing law/protocols prior to their tour. They may choose to follow their own personal preference with regards to wearing a mask and gloves even if it is not required by law. Should there be specific information you wish to share with the examiner about the protocols at your school prior to their arrival, please add notes in your exam entry so that the tour organiser can share this with the examiner.
- Please contact your local office or the examinations team at headquarters if you have any queries or concerns, require further guidance or feel that further measures/exceptions may be required to accommodate your particular situation. We are aiming to deliver as much flexibility as possible to facilitate examinations during this time.