



Cecchetti Classical Ballet Grades

The table below provides information regarding rules on exam timings and the number of candidates that can be entered per set for examinations.

Please note that exam candidates should be entered in sets of 4 from Grade 1 to Grade 6 - unless there are insufficient numbers, in which case groups of 3, 2 or just 1 candidate may be entered. Where there are an odd number of candidates, the extra candidates should be entered with a pair, making a group of three. Exceptions re. numbers of candidates in an exam can be made in some circumstances. For example, if the size of an exam venue prohibits larger groups.

Please contact the UK Exam team at ukdanceteachers@istd.org if you have any queries regarding timetabling.

Option 1 / Option 2 candidates can be entered together.

	Time for 1 Candidate	Time for 2 Candidates	Time for 3 Candidates	Time for 4 Candidates
Grade 1 – Ofqual Level 1	20 minutes	20 minutes	30 minutes	30 minutes
Grade 2 – Ofqual Level 1	30 minutes	30 minutes	35 minutes	35 minutes
Grade 3 – Ofqual Level 1	35 minutes	35 minutes	40 minutes	40 minutes
Grade 4 – Ofqual Level 2	40 minutes	40 minutes	45 minutes	45 minutes
Grade 5 – Ofqual Level 2	45 minutes	45 minutes	50 minutes	50 minutes
Grade 6 – Ofqual Level 3	55 minutes	55 minutes	60 minutes	60 minutes

Grade 1	Minimum age 7 years
Grade 2	Minimum age 7 years
Grade 3	Minimum age 8 years
Grade 4	Minimum age 9 years
Grade 5	Minimum age 10 years
Grade 6	Minimum age 11 years



Class Examinations and Senior Certificates 1 & 2

Teachers are expected to conduct the work for the children in the examination room from Pre-Primary to Class Exam 6. The order of the syllabus should be reasonably adhered to.

Senior Certificates 1 and 2 are conducted by the examiner. The teacher is not present.

Every child must have their timetable number pinned to their uniform.

Teachers should note that these time allowances include a five-minute writing period for the examiner therefore the syllabus demonstration must be completed five minutes before the time allowance given for Pre-Primary to Class Exam 6.

Pre-Primary

- The minimum number of candidates is 2, maximum is 5.
- 2-4 candidates = 20 minutes (15 minutes with 5 minutes writing time)
- 5 candidates = 25 minutes (20 minutes with 5 minutes writing time)

Primary, Standards 1 - 6

- The minimum number of candidates is one and the maximum is five – the ideal number of candidates is four.
- Primary, Standard 1 to 3 - The time allowance for each level = 30 minutes (25 minutes with 5 minutes writing time)
- Standard 4 to 6 - The time allowance for each level = 45 minutes (40 minutes with 5 minutes writing time)
- Under no circumstances should mature candidates be entered with teenagers.
- If there are more than four candidates, the recommendations are as follows;

6	Two groups of 3
7	One group of 4 and one of 3
8	Two groups of 4
9	One group of 4 and one group of 5
10	One group of 4 and two groups of 3 Two groups of 5 will be allowed in extenuating circumstances
11	Two groups of 4 and one group of 3
12	Three groups of 4

Senior Certificate 1 & 2

- The maximum number of candidates per set is three.
- The time allowance is 45 minutes for one candidate and 60 minutes for two or three candidates

Minimum Ages

Minimum age specifications are to ensure that the candidates are physically developed sufficiently to safely meet the demands of the syllabus. All minimum ages specified are the age at the date of the examination less 60 days.

Minimum age limits do not indicate that a candidate will be ready to take the examination at that age and it is the responsibility of the teacher to assess the physical, cognitive and artistic development of the candidate to meet the requirements of the syllabus, with regard to safe dance practice.



Pre-Primary	Minimum age 5 years
Primary	Minimum age 5 years
Standard 1	Minimum age 6 years
Standard 2	Minimum age 7 years
Standard 3	Minimum age 8 years
Standard 4	Minimum age 9 years
Standard 5	Minimum age 10 years
Standard 6	Minimum age 11 years
Senior Certificates 1 and 2	Minimum age 12 years

Cecchetti Classical Ballet Performance Awards

All levels are conducted by the examiner. The teacher is not present in the examination room.

Minimum Ages

Minimum age specifications are to ensure that the candidates are physically developed sufficiently to safely meet the demands of the syllabus. All minimum ages specified are the age at the date of the examination less 60 days.

Minimum age limits do not indicate that a candidate will be ready to take the examination at that age and it is the responsibility of the teacher to assess the physical, cognitive and artistic development of the candidate to meet the requirements of the syllabus, with particular regard to safe dance practice.

There is no upper age limit.

Performance Award Levels	
Bronze	Minimum age 7 years, recommended working at Standard 3/Grade 3 or above
Silver	Minimum age 8 years, recommended working at Standard 4 or Grade 4
Gold	Minimum age 9 years, recommended working at Standard 5 or Grade 5
Gold Star	Minimum Age 10 years Recommended working at Standard 6 or Grade 6



Candidates may be entered in groups of 4 or less as follows.

1 candidate	2 candidates	3 candidates	4 candidates
10 minutes	10 minutes	15 minutes	20 minutes

Cecchetti Classical Ballet Vocational Exams

Candidates taking Intermediate Foundation and above should be scheduled at the start of the examining day where possible.

Candidates should be entered in pairs except when there is an odd number, a group of three may be entered in Intermediate Foundation and Intermediate only.

Vocational Graded Exams All Levels - those entering the Option 1 syllabus (formerly Female) and those entering Option 2 (formerly Male syllabus) may not be examined together. If they wish to show different options, they must be entered separately.

Examination	1 candidate	2 candidates	3 candidates
Intermediate Foundation	60 minutes	75 minutes	75 minutes
Intermediate	75 minutes	75 minutes	90 minutes

Examination	1 candidate	2 candidates
Advanced 1	75 minutes	90 minutes
Advanced 2	90 minutes	105 minutes

Minimum ages

Minimum ages specifications are to ensure that the candidates are physically developed sufficiently to safely meet the demands of the syllabus. All minimum ages specified are the age at the date of the examination less 60 days.

Intermediate Foundation	Minimum age 11 years
Intermediate	Minimum age 12 years
Advanced 1	Minimum age 13 years
Advanced 2	Minimum age 14 years
Advanced 1 and 2 Analysis	Minimum age 16 years



Cecchetti Classical Ballet Professional Exams

Candidates should be entered in individually for professional exams. Please contact the UK Exam team at ukdanceteachers@istd.org if you have any queries regarding timetabling.

Examination	Number of candidates	Time Allowance
DDE (Unit 4)	1	120 minutes
Licentiate	1	150 minutes
Fellowship	1	165 minutes