

Thank you to all for your understanding and support this term with the delays as we navigate our way through everything going on and the impending changes ahead. Over the next week or so we are hoping to get more clarity around our shift to the traffic light system but at this stage we are pretty much in the dark in regards to what this means for our recital. We believe that we will be operating under the new system, in the orange level on Recital Day.

Please take the time to read the following information so you can understand the next three weeks better: (sorry this is a long letter to read)

1. Our understanding of the traffic light system and how it will affect our recital
2. Tickets for the recital
3. Theatre Rehearsal
4. Normal classes for the remainder of 2021
5. Recorded copy of the recital (HD file / DVD)
6. Raffle

The following is our understanding of how the traffic light system will affect the recital

Who can perform: Although under 12-year-old dancers will not be affected by the changes in terms of restrictions on who can participate, we are not sure what rules will be placed on our 12 to 15 year olds in terms of double vaccinations. If your child is between 12 and 15 and has not been double vaccinated, we ask that you prepare them for some very upsetting news that they may not be able to attend their recital this year. We ask that you please explain that these are not our rules but rules placed on us. We understand that is not yet mandated for this age group be vaccinated but from what we are reading and hearing, theatres can set their own rules. We have also heard that the cut off age for vaccination is 12 years and 3 months so those who have recently turned 12 and those who are turning 12 between now and the recital may be allowed a grace period. This is yet to be confirmed. At this stage there is no mandate on children to be vaccinated under the new system, some theatres may allow dancers to perform with a single vaccination, but other theatres are requiring all children 12 and over to be double vaccinated. The Aurora Centre is yet to give us a clear set of guidelines so we apologise that we cannot pass confirmed information around this on to our families.

Parents, Dressing Room Helpers and Backstage Helpers: Under the new system only double vaccinated helpers will be permitted entry to the backstage areas and dressing rooms at the Aurora Centre. Parents/Caregivers of under 12s who are not vaccinated will not be able to enter the facilities with their children.

All helpers (and staff) working at the recital will need to be able to show their vaccine pass on entry into the facility.

Audience Our understanding so far is that anyone eligible for the vaccinations, who are wishing to attend a performance in the audience, will need to be double vaccinated and produce their vaccination pass on entry to the theatre. As 12 to 15 years olds are eligible for the vaccine, it is likely these children wishing to be in the audience, will also need to show a vaccine pass to enter the building.

Tickets

Because we do not know which system, we will be operating under we can not sell any tickets yet.

Thank you for your 'wish lists' on tickets. Once we know if we will be operating in level 2 or orange traffic light, we will start the process of selling the tickets to our families.

**If we will be operating in orange on recital day, we realise that with the differing restrictions, the ticket request you have made may need to be altered due to vaccination status. We will email you a new ticket order form if we change to the new system and you will be able to confirm your order and make your payment. You will be able to confirm your full order of tickets, including extra tickets, under this system.

Level 2 At our current level of restrictions, we have very limited seating. Looking at the ticket orders received it is likely you will only be able to purchase your allocated number of tickets and not any extras. We understand that this will be disappointing for a large number of our families, but under the restrictions of level two, please understand there is nothing we can do about this situation. If we can increase bubble sizes and have fewer 'wasted seats' between bubbles, then we will be able to release some extra tickets. Please understand that we have to follow protocol.

Traffic light In the traffic light system there will be no limit on tickets for the fully vaccinated with vaccine passes.

HD and DVD

Our 11am and 6pm performances will be professionally recorded. You will be able to purchase a copy of the recital. HD files of the recital will be \$30. The link will be emailed to you and you can download the recital to your computer or device.

If you prefer a DVD there will be an extra cost of \$15 for production of the DVD. We can only proceed with DVD orders if we have 80 DVD orders.

Theatre Rehearsals

Hopefully you have all now seen the pdf with the day(s) your child(ren) has their dress rehearsal. This was emailed to all families and it is on our website. <https://www.annaleschoolofdance.co.nz/End-of-Year-Recital-2021/>

We have not been able to timetable the rehearsals as we haven't received confirmation from the theatre about access times. All we knew was we could not access the dressing rooms this year until after 4.30pm.

We now have confirmation we can access the stage area earlier than 4.30pm so can now set the timetable.

Please understand this delay in information has been as frustrating for us as it will be for you. The timetable will be available this week, as soon as finalised. Again, we apologise for the delays. We will email every family with the schedule and this information will also be available on the website.

The youngest children scheduled for each day will have their rehearsals first and the first stage time will be at 4pm each day. This will give families time to get to the theatre after school pick ups and will allow children time to get into costumes.

The first groups scheduled will get ready in the actual theatre and from 4.30pm we will have dressing room areas.

There will be some groups rehearsing a little later than ideal for their age and we are sorry about this. It is important that all the children have the chance to practice onstage, and these rehearsals are extremely important, so we hope that if the time of your child's rehearsal is not ideal that you will still make every effort to have them attend.

Please be aware that if we are operating under Orange Traffic Light the restrictions will be the same as on Recital Day.

Normal Classes for the remainder of 2021

Classes will operate as normal until Sunday December 5. If we move to traffic light before then we will notify you of the rules and restrictions around this.

There will not be any normal classes during the week of the theatre rehearsals or on recital day. Teachers cannot be at the theatre as well as in class at our venues. If any classes need an extra lesson during this week we will be in touch.

Raffle

Thank you to all who have been selling their raffle ticket. We would like to sell all the tickets by recital day if possible so if you think you can sell some more, please let us know as we still have some unsold sheet left over.

Ideally, we would like to get all the sheets back and receive the payment by Sunday November 28. This can be extended to the dress rehearsals if you still have tickets to sell and need more time. In saying this, all sheets, including unsold numbers and money must be returned before the recital please in order for us to proceed with drawing the raffle.

If you know you can't sell all your numbers please do not wait until dress rehearsal to return the sheets and please return them ASAP so we can try to find someone else to sell them for you.

Thank you to those who have generously donated to the raffle and for the amazing vouchers being donated. If you are donating vouchers, gift baskets or items for the gift baskets it would be amazing if we can gather these items from you ASAP so we can have the prizes ready by recital day.

Please check the website regularly <https://www.annaleschoolofdance.co.nz/End-of-Year-Recital-2021/>

For some reason some families are not receiving our emails. We do not know what is happening to these emails but know we have sent them! It is vital you check the website regularly over the next 3 weeks in the lead up to the recital just in case our emails do not reach you.

Thank you again for ongoing support and understanding this year. Life has certainly changed and we have more changes to face. We wish all our families the best as we move into the new system and we hope that life will find a new normal soon and become more settled for everyone. I think a lot of us are becoming tired and overwhelmed by what is going on but I am sure things will settle eventually! Congratulations to all our students for their amazing adaptability and enthusiasm this term. It breaks our hearts that some of our dancers may not be able to perform on December the 11th and we wish times were different. We are totally accepting all our families' decisions over vaccinations, as we all have the right to decide what we feel is best for our children.

If you have children or a child 12 and over, who may not be eligible to perform if we move to traffic lights, please can you contact us sooner than later so our teachers have an idea of alterations to dances that they may need to make.

Kind regards from the ALSD team.