

[Updated as of 30 December 2020]

“An Introduction to Safe Dance Practice in MOE schools”

Frequently Asked Questions for Schools

SECTION A – GENERAL

Q1. Why is there a need for the course, “*An Introduction to Safe Dance Practice in MOE Schools*”? What are the benefits of participating in the course?

Ministry of Education (MOE) and National Arts Council (NAC) value the importance of safe dance practice. It is of utmost importance that Dance Co-Curricular Activity (CCA) instructors acquire the essential knowledge and skills of safe dance practice so that they can adopt sound training approaches to help students build dance skills progressively, with minimal risk of injury.

In view of this emphasis, MOE, in partnership with NAC, has appointed Nanyang Academy of Fine Arts (NAFA) to mount a mandatory baseline training course, “An Introduction to Safe Dance Practice in MOE Schools” for all Dance CCA instructors in schools. This introductory course aims to equip instructors with basic working knowledge and skills, to ensure students’ well-being and optimal learning.

With effect from **1 February 2021**, all sessions of “*An Introduction to Safe Dance Practice in MOE Schools*” will be conducted online, replacing all face-to-face classes.

Please refer to **SECTION B** of this FAQ for more information on the online version of the-course.

Q2. Who has to attend the course? How do participants register for the course?

All Dance CCA instructors who are currently working in MOE schools, and new Dance CCA instructors who plan to apply to be an MOE-registered instructor with a specialisation in Dance must attend and pass this course.

Instructors may register for the course via the NAFA website or visit NAFA’s Centre for Lifelong Education Office. Current instructors are strongly encouraged to register as soon as possible so that their existing contracts with schools and MOE-registration status will not be disrupted.

Instructors only need to attend and pass this course once.

Q3. When will the new MOE instructor registration requirement for Dance instructors commence and how do I ensure that the processing period of my application is not affected?

With effect from 1 January 2021, all instructors applying to be a MOE-registered instructor with specialisation in Dance, are required to have completed the course.

[Updated as of 30 December 2020]

All dance instructors are encouraged to register early and complete the course **as soon as possible** to avoid possible delays to their application to be an MOE-instructor.

As the courses are run by NAFA every month from 2021, it is recommended for existing MOE dance instructors to register for the course **at least six months** before the expiry of their MOE-instructor registration, to allow ample time for the re-registration process and prevent disruption to their contracts with schools.

Q4. Will current contracts signed with Dance CCA instructors before January 2021 still be valid when the new registration requirement takes effect?

Yes, these contracts will remain valid and there is no need to re-sign new contracts. The registration requirement will only affect new or re-registering Dance CCA instructors applying with MOE for a Dance-related Specialisation from 1 January 2021.

Schools should however, encourage all their Dance CCA instructors to complete the course before 31 December 2020.

Q5. Is the course completion an engagement requirement when schools contract with Dance CCA instructors?

"An Introduction to Safe Dance Practice in MOE Schools" **is not an engagement requirement** for Dance CCA contracts in MOE schools. MOE HQ will verify if a dance instructor has successfully completed the course when he/she registers or renews his/her registration with MOE.

Q6. Will some other courses be made mandatory for all Visual and Performing Arts (VPA) CCA instructors in the future, before they are allowed to instruct in MOE schools? Will there be other courses that VPA CCA instructors need to attend in order to instruct in MOE schools?

MOE and NAC share the fundamental belief that quality arts instruction has a positive and significant impact on children.

MOE and NAC will regularly review the skills required of VPA CCA instructors to support students' lifelong interest and appreciation of the arts. In alignment with NAC's Our SG Arts Plan, NAC will partner relevant agencies to build diverse capabilities in the arts sector through a range of capability development efforts, and to enable VPA CCA instructors to stay up-to-date. They will also partner our schools in delivering VPA CCA experiences for our students.

Q7. Can this course be a replacement for the Standard First-Aid Course?

This course is not the same as a Standard First-Aid Course¹. The Standard First-Aid Course is **NOT** one of the requirements for Dance CCA instructors to register on MOE's Registry of Instructors.

¹ Conducted by centres accredited by the Singapore Resuscitation First Aid Council.

Q8. Other than this course, what else has been done to ensure students' safety during Dance CCA?

MOE has consistently emphasised the value and significance of safe dance training for students. It is done so through its professional development platforms for Dance CCA teachers in-charge, as well as resources targeting both Dance CCA teachers-in-charge and instructors.

Like the Dance CCA teachers-in-charge, the Dance CCA instructors play a critical role in ensuring and strengthening safe dance practice in schools. This course therefore aims to equip all Dance CCA instructors with basic working knowledge and skills of safe dance practice so that they can adopt sound training approaches to build students' dance skills progressively, with minimal risk of injury.

Q9. Are Dance CCA instructors not currently sufficiently equipped to ensure the safety of our students?

Given their dance background and professional experience, all Dance CCA instructors would have been familiarised with what safe dance teaching engenders. This course aims to underscore its importance, reinforce the instructors' understanding, and offer guidance where essential. This ensures that regardless of genre and years of experience, all Dance CCA instructors have a common baseline understanding of the core principles of safe dance teaching.

SECTION B – ONLINE VERSION OF COURSE

Q10. Why has the course "*An Introduction to Safe Dance Practice in MOE Schools*" been converted to an online course ?

As MOE and NAC value the importance of safe dance practice and Dance CCA instructors' capability development, MOE and NAC worked in partnership with NAFA to re-design the course to an online version so that training can continue uninterrupted. With online training, instructors can continue to attend this course safely, and more training placements can be made available to ensure instructors complete the course in a timely manner.

Courses will also be conducted more frequently; with at least 2 course runs offered monthly (subject to minimum number of registered participants) starting February 2021

Q11. Would the rigour of the course be compromised when it is conducted online?

MOE and NAC worked closely with NAFA to re-design and trial the online version of the course so that the course is as rigorous as the face-to-face version, and participants can still achieve the same learning outcomes.

[Updated as of 30 December 2020]

The online version of the course also provides the opportunity for the participants to learn and revisit the course material at their own pace before and after the course, and the activities and discussion during the course itself also allow the participants to self-assess their understanding of the course content.

SECTION C – INSTRUCTORS/PERSONNELS OTHER THAN MOE REGISTERED
DANCE CCA INSTRUCTORS

Q12. Will non-Dance CCA instructors (e.g. Wushu; Lion Dance; Literature, Drama & Dance Society (LDDS) and Cultural Society instructors) be required to attend the course?

This requirement **only affects Dance CCA instructors**. However, non-Dance CCA instructors who impart dance skills to students on a regular basis in the context of CCA are also required to undergo this course.

- **Cultural Societies and Literature, Drama & Dance Societies:**
These typically involve dance in some way, though hours of involvement may vary across schools. As dance instruction is involved in a CCA context on a regular basis, it would be essential that the dance instructors engaged by the school undergo this course.
- **Wushu-based and Lion Dance CCA:**
Wushu-based and Lion Dance CCA are not equivalent to Dance CCA, therefore coaches from such CCA **do not need** to attend the course. As Wushu coaches must be registered with the National Registry of Coaches (NROC) before being eligible to coach in schools, they would have already undertaken other safety-related components relevant to their field of expertise. However, if any of them are to register with MOE as **CCA instructors with a Dance Specialisation**, they will have to go through the course.

Q13. Is there a need for instructors involving in Programme for Active Learning (PAL) Dance, dance-related enrichment and other non-CCA programmes to complete the course before the school can engage them?

Instructors registered with MOE to provide dance-related enrichment programmes and PAL Dance programmes **will not need** to attend the "An Introduction to Safe Dance Practice in MOE Schools" Course.

As some schools are offering other non-CCA programmes where significant dance activity is involved, schools may assess the nature of the training (i.e. intensity, regularity, etc) and include instructors' attendance for the course as an engagement requirement, to ensure minimal risk of injury during students' training.

Q14. Can Teachers-in-Charge of Dance CCA attend the course? If so, will there be any subsidised rate for Education Officers?

[Updated as of 30 December 2020]

There are **no restrictions** for course participants. However, Dance CCA instructors currently registered with MOE will be given the priority during registration.

The subsidies for MOE Education Officers will be the same as for any Singaporean Citizen or Permanent Resident attending the course. Singaporeans are also entitled to use their SkillsFuture Credit to further offset the course fees.

Please refer to the [NAFA website](#) for more details on payment and subsidies.