



Welcome to the Flying Irish Studio!!!



Under the direction of Mary-Sarah O'Hanlon

P.O. Box 351, Ashby, MA 01431

978-386-2325

www.irishstepdancing.com & www.flyingirish.com & www.flyingirishyoga.com

This handout, as well as periodic e-newsletters, website updates, and studio postings, contains important information that will help us build our relationship together. Please retain this copy for future reference.

Tuition Rates:

Registration fee: \$15/year per student (the year runs from Sept. 1 – Aug 31); maximum \$35/year per family. A student's first and last month's tuition (both non-refundable) is due at the time of registration. (All Access Pass students only pay their first month's tuition and registration fee at the time of registration.)

GROUP CLASSES:

30-minute class	\$30/month	45-minute class	\$42/month
1-hour class	\$50/month		
All Access Pass (AAP)	includes all age- & ability- appropriate group dance classes		
\$115/month	Beginner – Junior Novice	\$125/month	Senior Novice – Champion
Private lessons	\$25/half-hour, \$55/hour	Semi-privates (2 people) = \$37.50/half-hour, \$75/hour	
	**Payments for private lessons are to be included in monthly tuition checks		
Extra classes/rehearsals, workshops, etc.	<i>Priced individually; see class/program description</i>		

Family Discounts (dance only):

First family member/student pays full single tuition rate. (The first family member is the student with the highest monthly class rate.) All additional family members/students deduct 5% from their tuition rate. For multiple family members participating in the AAP program, the first family member (the student with the highest AAP rate) pays the full AAP tuition and each additional AAP member deducts 10% from their tuition rate.

Students are registered for the duration of the year (September 1st - August 31st). The student's parent or guardian is responsible for tuition and fees through the end of the season. The studio must receive a letter of withdrawal 30 days prior to a student leaving the program in order to void this contract. Payments continue to be due until withdrawal is complete. No partial payments accepted.

- Classes meet weekly. Tuition remains the same if there are 3, 4, or 5 lessons, rehearsals, or shows in a calendar month.
- A late fee of \$10 will be charged for all tuition not received on or before the 7th of the month. The fee will still be applied when a payment is missed because a student is absent or class is canceled due to inclement weather.
- Payments may be placed in the studio payment box during normal studio hours or mailed to the studio at: Flying Irish, LLC, PO Box 351, Ashby, MA 01431, (allow ample time for your tuition to be delivered by the 7th; do not mail cash).
- If payment is made by check, please include on the memo: student's first and last name, month of tuition, and any other explanations. Receipts are given upon request.
- There is a \$20.00 charge for returned checks. After two checks are returned, only cash will be accepted.
- Unless otherwise noted, classes will be held during single-day holidays (for example, Veteran's Day).
- To cancel the studio contract (i.e. cease responsibility for paying tuition for the class season in the event a student wishes to drop out of class): a 30-day advance written notice must be provided. Students are welcome to complete their class schedule during their 30-day withdrawal notice period. At the end of 30 days, the student will no longer be enrolled and will not incur additional fees.

BRINGING & PICKING UP STUDENTS

To minimize disruptions when dropping off students, please do not arrive more than 10 minutes before scheduled class time, and make sure to pick up students within 5 minutes after class has ended. Parents must come inside the building to pick up young children; please notify the instructor or send in a note if someone other than the parent will be driving students home. Students who are allowed to arrive and leave the Flying Irish Studio independently, without a parent's supervision, are their parents' responsibility.

MAKE-UP & SNOW DAYS

If a student is going to be absent, we ask that you CALL AT LEAST TWO HOURS BEFORE THE CLASS THAT WILL BE MISSED. This is very important as make-ups are only offered if a call is received or if a message is left on the answering machine. (Please do not email the studio regarding absences.) Make-up classes must be taken within one month of the class missed. Make-ups are not available during performance/competition times.

If the weather is at all inclement, please call the studio AFTER 2 O'CLOCK PM. If you hear a standard out-going message (one NOT listing a cancellation), then the studio is open and holding class. Please understand that we have customers from many communities and states and that FIS may be open even if school or other activities were canceled in your area. Students may take a make-up in the closest-level class the week of or following a cancellation due to weather conditions (tuition will not be adjusted in the event of cancellations).

ATTENDANCE

Please make an effort to attend all scheduled classes, as this is important to the student, teacher, and classmates. Participation in special programs & events has specific attendance requirements; see information pertaining to each event or program.

In the event of serious injury: A doctor's note must be sent to the studio explaining the nature of the injury and when the student can expect to return to class. The student will receive make-ups only in the month(s) following his/her return to classes, within that calendar year. Tuition must be kept up to date during the absences in order to hold class placement and cannot be refunded or transferred to another student in the event of an injury. A doctor's note is also required stating that the student is able to return to class. Non-infectious students may observe classes until they are able to participate fully.

Students who have been taking classes for 5 and 10 years will be honored with attendance awards.

CLASS PLACEMENT

All students are individuals with very different ability levels and will not all progress at the same rate. Students may be moved at any time if a different class would better suit their needs and talents. The instructor will have final judgment concerning class placement. Students may spend a number of years in a level before moving up.

Regular practice on a daily basis is necessary to master the material taught in class. Parents can help their student's progress by monitoring practice sessions and signing class practice logs. Students who are not progressing at the level of their class must work on their own to catch up and/or will be moved into another class that better suits their needs and ability level.

CLASS BEHAVIOR

Studio classes are a social activity and we want students to feel at ease and have fun, but also to leave class having learned something new. Here are some guidelines to follow (please share them with younger students):

1. Students must be ready to participate as soon as their class begins, and are allowed to leave class only in an emergency. Students who arrive after the class warm-ups are completed may only be allowed to observe class.

2. Accept corrections as a gift; corrections will make students grow as artists. This includes both personal corrections and those given to the class as a whole. Be attentive while corrections are being given to others.
3. Be respectful of fellow classmates. Watch and learn from their triumphs as well as their mistakes.
4. Students should be watching, counting the music, or working out material to be prepared for their turn while others are working with the instructor.
5. Support and praise fellow class members.
6. No talking in class! No running, screaming, swearing, or other rambunctious or disruptive behavior in class or at performances, rehearsals & competitions. Flying Irish, LLC, is not liable for any damages or injuries as a result of such behavior.
7. The Flying Irish Studio has zero tolerance for bullying. Every student has a right to a safe and productive learning environment. The Flying Irish Studio reserves the right to dismiss, without recourse, any student or family, who does not adhere to our policies by disrupting the learning environment, without refund.

PERFORMING MATERIAL OUTSIDE CLASS

No student at the Flying Irish Studio is permitted to perform or teach material learned in class without the express permission of one of the instructors. (Material is proprietary to Flying Irish, LLC).

CLASS ATTIRE

Please take note of our dress codes! What looks great on stage starts in the classroom. Extra clothing obscures alignment, muscle tone, and faulty technical habits and can be a safety hazard. Failure to dress appropriately for class can result in a student observing, not participating in, that particular class (no make-ups will be given). Ordering information is available on the studio's "Resources" page.

Irish Dance Attire:

Girls: Flying Irish logo tee shirt and Flying Irish logo shorts. Optional: solid-colored leotard to match FI logo shorts color and flesh colored tights. *Female Irish Dancers must wear poodle socks with their Irish shoes.*

Boys: Flying Irish logo tee shirt, fitted dance/bike shorts; white socks.

Under age 7: Black leotard (no attached ruffles or skirts), suntan tights, black leather ballet slippers.

Adults: Same as girls but may substitute black leggings (fitted from the knee down). Irish shoes or black jazz shoes or black dance sneakers.

Yoga:

Comfortable workout clothing that does not obscure alignment. Bare feet.

Shoes for Dance Classes:

ALL Irish footwear should be the *Rutherford* brand (order forms in lobby). Female students wear gillies; male students must wear black split-sole jazz shoes (beginners) or Irish reel shoes (Novice & up). Hard shoes must be worn in hard shoe classes (Rutherford—beginner shoes for beginners and sand-blast super-flexis for novice through champion dancers). Under age 7 may wear black leather ballet shoes.

Dance or other class footwear must be clean and worn in the studio ONLY to protect the flooring and the students' safety. Dance/class shoes being worn outside must be covered with clogs or other outside footwear.

Please label all shoes and clothing with student's name. For safety, only minimal, small-secured jewelry may be worn in class. Please, no inappropriate attire. Cover class attire with appropriate outerwear whenever outside the studio. Please discuss deodorant with your child if he or she is over the age of nine.

SNACKS

If sending water or healthy snacks for students who take consecutive classes, please provide a small plastic baggy for students to bring perishables back home with them. FIS cannot accommodate perishable garbage in our waste receptacles. **ONLY WATER is allowed in the studio.**

MEDICATIONS--Parents are solely responsible for their child's medication.

WAITING IN THE LOBBY

In order to keep things running smoothly, we ask that you respect the following:

1. Parents should not speak to their child while class is in session. Guests are not allowed in the studio.
2. Parents must wait in the lobby during class. A parent observation week will be held once a year, at which time parents may enter the studio to observe class. For the safety of class participants and to protect the floor, street shoes are not allowed inside the studio.
3. When possible, refrain from eating and drinking in the lobby. If a beverage is being consumed, please hold the container at all times. *Please bring perishable waste home with you.*
4. Smoking is not permitted inside the building, or on Studio property.
5. For safety and to keep our facility enjoyable for all, we ask that children in the lobby are monitored closely and not be allowed to climb on seats or hang on or block the windows and doors.
6. FIS is not responsible for lost or stolen articles. Please only bring class supplies into FIS.
7. Parents with infants or small children must bring dirty diapers home with them. The studio cannot accommodate used diapers on our trash receptacles. Please take care of all private needs of young children in the bathroom or changing area.

ADDITIONAL PROGRAMS

There are a number of performance programs & competitive opportunities available to dedicated students at the Flying Irish Studio. Students must meet certain requirements (practice time, class levels, attendance, etc) to participate and may need to audition for placement. Additional fees may be required to cover additional expenses (travel, costuming, competition fees, etc). Students may not participate at any level unless all FIS accounts are current.

SUMMER SESSIONS

Irish Dance is a year-round sport. Classes continue during the summer and new material will be covered during these classes, as well as review of older material. Summer classes may be required for certain programs and/or level advancement.

TRANSFER STUDENTS

Students transferring from another Irish Dance Academy will undergo a three-month retraining period during which time they will be suspended from competitions. Transfer students may also need to be assessed within a class to determine their best class placement.

THANK YOU

Your cooperation with Flying Irish, LLC, policies is greatly appreciated. Flying Irish is unable to accommodate exceptions, in order to ensure fairness to all. Your cooperation in not asking for exceptions is appreciated. We thank you for your patronage and wish you an enjoyable season. The Flying Irish Studio is honored to be the choice of families from many communities in MA & NH since 1998.