



An AllPlay Dance Masterclass Event: Adapting Dance for Children with Cerebral Palsy

Deakin University has recently developed AllPlay Dance – a digital platform funded by the National Disability Insurance Agency, which contains evidenced based resources for dance schools, teachers, health professionals, parents and children. Its purpose is to enable and promote the inclusion of children of all abilities in dance.

Research Opportunity

We intend to draw on the AllPlay Dance resources to demonstrate how dance can be adapted for children with Cerebral Palsy (CP). During the September school holiday period, we will be offering an adapted dance program for children with CP, aged 8-10. The program will have a ballet focus and take place at our Deakin University dance studios in Burwood.

The program consists of four 45-minute sessions and will be conducted by disability and dance experts. Children with CP will also have the opportunity to be mentored by “buddies” (i.e., older dancers, aged 13-17, who are undertaking pre-professional ballet training). They will dance side-by-side with their buddies to learn a unified dance piece, which they will then have the opportunity to perform at an AllPlay masterclass event held by Deakin University in collaboration with the Queensland Ballet Company.

We are also planning to conduct short online surveys before and after the dance program to help us understand whether there are any benefits to health and wellbeing, cognitive, emotional and behavioural functioning, and/or sense of inclusion in the community.

The AllPlay Dance Masterclass Event

At the AllPlay masterclass event, children with CP will be able to observe Li Cunxin, Artistic Director of QLD Ballet Company and author of *Mao's Last Dancer*, lead their buddies in a ballet masterclass. During the event, they will also have the opportunity to join together with their buddies to perform the dance piece they rehearsed during the adapted dance program.

The event will be filmed for media purposes. We will require consent from families for their children to be filmed. If you agree to this, we will ask you to complete a consent form.

If you have any questions or would like to hear more about this opportunity, please feel free to contact Dr Ebony Lindor, Deakin University, ebony.lindor@deakin.edu.au or 9246 8468.

This project has been approved by Deakin University Human Research Ethics Committee:
2018-011 An Inclusive Dance Program for Children with Disabilities



DANCE CLASSES

Tuesday 25 September, 2:00-2:45pm

Saturday 29 September, 10:00-10:45am

Tuesday 2 October, 2:00-2:45pm

Saturday 6 October, 10:00-10:45am

ALLPLAY MASTERCLASS EVENT

Sunday 7 October, 4:00-7:00pm

Deakin University

Dance Studio

221 Burwood Hwy,

Burwood VIC 3125