

SECTION C

CHRISTIAN DANCE

Limit of 35 students in each group
(Solo entries ineligible in this section)

| <i>A Prayerful Dance Expression for use in Liturgy or Paraliturg</i> | | | | |
|--|---------------------------|-------|--|-------|
| Code | Categories | Years | Description | Limit |
| *C1 | Liturgical Movement Group | 1-6 | A prayerful expression in dance Limit of 1 performance item per entry | 8 min |
| *C2 | Liturgical Movement Group | 7-12 | A prayerful expression in dance Limit of 1 performance item per entry | 8 min |

*** NOTE: Sections C1 & C2 requiring seating plans are advised that once the timetable package has been sent to schools, the office will allow one week for schools to make changes. After that week NO further changes or requests will be regarded.**

1 General Educational Aims and Policy

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| <p>To Communicate To Share To Interpret</p> <p>A Prayerful Liturgical Experience</p> | <p>Dance is a universal language which communicates its emotions and story lines to the audience and/or congregation. Sacred dance comes in different forms and often reflects the cultures of nations throughout the world. The movements may be performed in the sanctuary or on desert sands, but its theme of worship is universal.</p> |
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2 Preparation Details

Christian Dance teachers are expected to ensure that:

- The children are aware that their movement is a prayer.
- The children have an understanding of the spiritual song/dialogue, and have actively participated in the preparation and relevant interpretation of the work or reflection.
- The costumes/liturgical gowns are suitable to the prepared movement.
- The movements communicate the theme clearly to the congregation.
- The strong expressive movement is well planned and rehearsed.
- The material used is suitable to the age and maturity of the children.
- **There is a strict adherence to the 8 minute listed maximum time limit.**

3 Organisational Details

- Appropriate props may be used but should be kept to a minimum.
- The children should arrive at the venue in full costume, with warm clothes covering costumes.
- Teachers may use available sound production facilities - ie CDs, which should be given to the Section Co-ordinator on arrival. (NB: Burnt CDs may not work on sound system. It is wise to bring your own CD player for burnt CDs.)
- Timing includes arrangements or removal of props by students.
- A brief description must be provided describing how the dance fits into the Liturgy, and giving a Christian interpretation of the Dance item. **This must be received by the Catholic Arts Office with the entry form.**
- A Rehearsal Day for schools to rehearse their Dance at the venue will be arranged before performances begin. The Catholic Arts Office will contact

teachers in term 2 regarding the allocation of rehearsal timeslots. Please note the Rehearsal Date is on the Entry Form.

- It is the responsibility of all schools to have a **FIRST AID KIT** or adequate provisions at every performance. Each school is responsible for their own students

4 Adjudication Performance Criteria

- Suitability for age level and maturity of performers.
- Variety and clarity of performance.
- Emphasis is placed on the prayerful creativity and choreography of the movement.
- The timing and flow of the presentation.
- The extent to which the interpretation is appropriate to the music.
- The reflection of feeling.
- Suitability for didactic and/or liturgical use.
- The impact of the message communicated.

5 Background Information

Dances performed during the celebration of the Eucharist have a special place within the liturgy either as:

Biblical Dance Stories and Interpretation of the Word

The presentation may be part of the Entrance Procession or may occur within the context of the Liturgy of the Word.

Dance of Reflection, Prayer and Praise

The presentation may occur after the Consecration and after Holy Communion.