

English
National
Ballet
School

Director of Dance
Candidate Brief



Welcome

English National Ballet School (ENBS) is at the start of an exciting new stage in its history and I am delighted that you are considering the role as Director of Dance.

Within the highly competitive world of classical ballet, ENBS is widely regarded as one of the UK's top ballet schools. Beyond our exemplary physical training, ENBS nurtures mental resilience, creativity, and an appreciation for the arts. We foster communication, emotional and physical intelligence and teamwork and with this emphasis, we are proud of the reputation the school has established for delivering a world-class dance education to students aspiring to become professional dancers and leaders in the performing arts sector and beyond.

Founded in 1988, our links with our parent-company, English National remain strong, with approximately a third of ENB dancers being graduates of the school. Students perform in ENB's productions of My First Ballet, as well as in the company's main stage and touring productions, and those of other leading UK companies. The quality of what we teach and the care we show for our students is reflected in the school being consistently graded as 'Outstanding' by Ofsted, most recently in 2024.

Once a young dancer joins ENBS, they have a very bright future. On average, 85% of ENBS graduates secure contracts with prestigious ballet companies.

The new Director of Dance will play a pivotal role in shaping the artistic vision of English National Ballet School, championing excellence and innovation in classical ballet training. Working closely with the Executive Director, they will inspire and lead the artistic team, nurture the next generation of exceptional dancers and strengthen the School's reputation as a world-leading institution for dance education.

We are seeking an exceptional individual who will help guide us through the changes ahead, while further raising the school's profile nationally and internationally, keeping the school at the forefront of dance education.

In what follows you will learn more about the work we are already doing and our ambitious plans for the future.

We look forward to hearing from you.

Amanda Skoog - Executive Director

Introduction

ENBS aspires to be the first choice for international dance talent, regardless of financial background. Talent and passion are the key criteria for pursuing a dance education with ENBS.

Since August 2022, Executive Director Amanda Skoog has led ENBS into an exciting era of growth, introducing new artistic, educational, and philanthropic strategies.

Originally housing just 12 students, ENBS has since grown into a globally recognised vocational ballet school. We remain a uniquely small school, with class sizes no more than 20 students, allowing for the highest teacher to student ratio. Alongside our artistic training we prioritise an exemplary holistic approach to our physical and mental well-being support, which works to ensure our students avoid injury, are mentally resilient, and are given every opportunity to reach their full potential.

Collaboration is key to our students' success. Our primary partnership with English National Ballet provides unparalleled access to professional company life, complementing a robust curriculum that balances classical and contemporary techniques with well-being, academic study, and career preparation.

Beyond its core programmes, ENBS actively engages in creative learning and community outreach, championing inclusivity and diversity in dance. We are committed to making ballet more diverse and accessible, fostering an inclusive environment that broadens ballet's appeal and reflects modern society.

Our students go on to enrich the world through dance, bringing professionalism, generosity, and commitment to every performance and role they undertake.

OUR VISION

Exceptional dance training to nurture and inspire.

OUR MISSION

Cultivating Artistry: Training the individual dancer to be recognised internationally for their technique, creativity, style and strength.

OUR VALUES

Committed | Innovative | Ambitious | Inclusive

- We are committed to always improving quality
- We are innovative and creative in our offering
- We are ambitious for all our students ensuring they achieve employment that will be fulfilling and life affirming
- We are inclusive and nurture each student and employee with respect





About the Role

We are seeking an exceptional individual to serve as Director of Dance who will play a pivotal role in shaping English National Ballet School's artistic vision, delivering world-class training and inspiring future generations of dancers.

The Director of Dance will provide artistic leadership, working closely with the Executive Director and teaching teams to uphold exceptional standards of ballet training and student development.

This influential role offers a unique opportunity to advance the School's artistic policy, nurture a positive and inclusive culture, strengthen relationships with English National Ballet and international partners, and create outstanding opportunities for emerging dance professionals.

Candidate Profile

We are seeking an inspirational and accomplished dance professional with outstanding artistic credentials, extensive leadership experience and a deep understanding of classical ballet training, who can champion excellence and innovation at English National Ballet School.

The successful candidate will bring exceptional artistic vision, strategic thinking and a proven ability to lead, motivate and develop high-performing teaching teams. With significant experience in professional ballet, they will demonstrate a commitment to nurturing young talent, promoting student wellbeing and fostering an inclusive learning environment. Excellent communication skills, strong industry relationships and a collaborative approach will be essential, alongside the ambition to enhance the School's international reputation.

KEY RESPONSIBILITIES AND RELATIONSHIPS

- With the Executive Director, to lead on developing the School's strategy and values, building its world class ballet and dance training, producing outstanding dancers who also become leaders in the field.
 - To be responsible for formulating Artistic Policy and championing its implementation internally and externally.
 - To create and develop a strong, positive and open working environment and cultural ethos which supports the School's values and best practice. To lead by example and promote clear and open lines of communication.
 - To keep fully current with developments and best practice principles in dance training and dancer's health and work to implement these in the School.
 - To lead and manage the artistic staff, empowering and enabling them to teach at the highest level, providing a high standard of student experience from initial recruitment, through the course, onto graduation and entry into the dance profession.
 - To engage with students to meaningfully contribute to their development.
 - To develop a synergetic relationship between the School and ENB to help maintain artistic standards and competitive advantage.
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How to Apply

To apply for the Director of Dance position, please follow the application link.

[Start your application here.](#)

Discover ENBS

