

# Take the Stage Holiday Program

## Frequently Asked Questions



### What activities will my child participate in?

Take the Stage Holiday Programs include lots of singing, dancing and drama activities and we always put on a performance for family and friends at the end. In addition to the high energy performing arts sessions, in each 7 hour day we include a morning tea, lunch and afternoon tea break. Importantly, for the younger children, we also schedule some less active sessions like a themed craft activity to provide some balance.



### What does the schedule for the day look like, approximately?

This sample timetable will give you an idea of what a day at Take the Stage Holiday Program looks like. Session lengths for older participants are between 50-80 minutes while younger participants have a number of shorter sessions across the day.

HOLIDAY PROGRAM DAY 1: SAMPLE TIMETABLE	
All groups together - welcome and warm up sequence: 20 minutes	
Groups move to their relevant space	
Seniors	Juniors
Singing Session #1: 65 minutes	Singing Session #1: 35 minutes
	Drama Session #1: 30 minutes
Morning Tea: 20 minutes	
Dance Session #1: 80 minutes	Craft session #1: 35 minutes
	Dance Session #1: 35 minutes
	Quiet time activities: 10 minutes
Lunch: 30 minutes	
Theatre Skills Session #1: 60 minutes	Dance Session #2: 40 minutes
	Theatre Activities #1: 40 minutes
Drama Session #1: 60 minutes	Singing Session #2: 40 minutes
Afternoon Tea: 20 minutes	
Dance Session #2: 60 minutes	Drama Session #2: 30 minutes
	Theatre Activities #2: 30 minutes
Gather groups together - celebrate the day	
Dismissal	

### Will my child be in a group with children of a similar age?

Take the Stage Holiday Programs are an opportunity for children starting school, right through to Year 6. Generally, children in their first year of school and Grade 1 are grouped together as the 'Juniors' and children in Grades 2-6 will be either grouped together or in age based groups as 'Seniors'. So yes, your child will be in with similar-aged children.

### I've just found out my child has a friend who's attending, can they be in the same group?

Yes! Please email [enrolments@aspagroup.com.au](mailto:enrolments@aspagroup.com.au) if there is a friend attending who you'd like to be in the same group as your child.

### How does it work at drop off?

We know that arriving at a Holiday Program for the first time can be a nerve-wracking experience for some children. Each venue will have signage and we ask that a parent or caregiver walks their child to the sign in desk where there will be a nametag and a friendly staff member waiting to welcome everyone.

### Who are the staff?

We have a team of performing arts specialists and educators who deliver our Holiday Program sessions and another group of staff who manage the event, liaise with parents and ensure the safety and wellbeing of all participants.



### How does the concert work?

The end-of-program concert is a highlight and we invite family and friends to attend if you're able. Performing is a key part of the learning at all ASPA Education Holiday Programs but it's not our entire focus. We include a range of activities in each session, some of which we intend to perform and some for purely educational or fun purposes! Younger participants might only perform two items while older participants will have a few more items to demonstrate.



### My child has an Additional Need, can these needs be accommodated?

At ASPA Education we firmly believe in the value of performing arts participation for all young people and aim to create an inclusive education environment for those with disabilities and neurodivergences. ASPA's [Duty of Care Policy](#) outlines our commitment to the safety and wellbeing of all program participants.

ASPA Education Holiday Programs are action-packed, dynamic, high-energy, sociable and interactive. Participants sing songs, dance to loud music, play drama games, eat lunch in a group environment, move from one room to another under supervision, interact in small group work and get to know lots of new people. Some students thrive in this environment and some are challenged by it.

In order to provide the best possible program for each participant we ask parents to complete our [Disability and Additional Needs Support Form](#) to share how best to support your child.

Our Holiday Program Event Manager is responsible for program logistics and the wellbeing of all participants. This includes liaising with families during the program about their child's additional needs. In collaboration with Sally Gawley, our Head of ASPA Education, they may contact you to discuss your child's participation during the program.

Our staff are unable to provide one on one support but should your child require this please contact [enrolments@aspagroup.com.au](mailto:enrolments@aspagroup.com.au) directly.

### **My son is worried that he might be the only boy, is that likely?**

At each Take the Stage Holiday Program we have a number of boys participating but they are often out-numbered by the girls. We always strategically place boys in a group together and will give you a call to discuss the best plan ahead of the program if your son is the only boy of his age enrolled.

### **What will they wear?**

Children will be participating in dynamic activities with lots of movement so should wear comfortable clothes each day. Shoes should be suitable for dancing in (not thongs, strappy sandals or shoes with heels) and long hair should be tied back. All articles of clothing should be clearly named.



### **What should we pack each day?**

- Lunch as well as morning and afternoon tea snacks. We ask that you do not pack any nut-based foods including peanut butter or Nutella. Sharing of food or drinks is not allowed.
- A water bottle that can be re-filled and any other drinks.
- A wet weather jacket and/or hat and sunscreen depending on the forecast. We will sit outside during breaks weather permitting.
- You child's asthma puffer or epi-pen if applicable – please notify the Event Manager.
- You child's sensory or support toy, if applicable – please notify the Event Manager.
- We prefer that valuables, including mobile phones and other devices, are left at home. If your child is bringing a mobile phone please talk with them about our requirement that they leave it switched off and in their bag during the program day.

### **What if I'm running late to pick up my child?**

In the week prior to the program we will provide you with an emergency contact number that you can call if you're running late. We also have your number/s and will be in touch if we need to for any reason. Naturally we ask all parents to aim to be punctual at pick up time but we will also supervise your child until you arrive.

### **What if my child is unwell and can't attend on the day?**

Please email [enrolments@aspagroup.com.au](mailto:enrolments@aspagroup.com.au) if your child is unable to attend due to illness.