

Welcome to the LCB family!

Congratulations on successfully making it into the LCB company. I'm looking forward to getting to know you and your family in the months ahead. Your child is embarking on an exciting journey – one that will stay with them forever.

This experience will give your child an insight into what it is like to be part of a real ballet company. They will be not only work on technique and performance skills, but also valuable life skills, such as teamwork, commitment and respect for others. And of course, enjoy the thrilling buzz and reward for all their hard work at the end of the process! We hope each child will develop their individual gifts, being inspired to find ways to make a difference to other people's lives in the future, long after the curtain comes down.

LCB was created in 1994 for the benefit of the children who participate. LCB is a non-profit making charity. Over the last 25 years, LCB has learnt so much about children with a passion for dance and about the many families who make real sacrifices to cover the cost of their ballet classes.

LCB does not charge for over 100 hours of tuition with leading ballet professionals. This unique, five-month experience is accessible to every child who loves to dance and whose kind families are willing to get them to rehearsals. If you have any worries or feedback throughout the process, please do let us know because our hope is to give each member of the Company an experience to remember for a lifetime.

I'd like to also share with you, how much good we do in the community; the incredible new ballet that you help to create is just the beginning. We have a *Ballet for £1* programme, where two performances are dedicated to inner-city school children and charities for children and the elderly. LCB takes *workshops* out into schools that come to see the show, with a view to help these children discover ballet in an accessible way. We also have three *touring companies* who perform an adapted version of the LCB ballet in hospices, special educational needs schools and nursing homes. At the moment, we are also developing a new project, *Ballet in a Box*, aimed at ballet schools outside the London-centric reach of LCB. There is a lot going on!

Over the years, many parents have asked how LCB is funded. We have managed this thanks to the generosity of many loyal supporters who make donations. However, it has become more difficult in this current economic climate. LCB receives no public funding. The reality is that although we sell out our performances, ticket sales cover less than half of the costs. LCB needs to raise about £320,000 above and beyond our ticket income, each year.

The LCB experience is warmly offered to each of you free (excluding the costume contribution), with no strings attached. I am very aware that for many Company families the expense of travelling to rehearsals is already a significant consideration. However, I feel it important to make you aware that the cost to LCB is roughly £3,790 per child.

Would you consider if there is any way, small or significant, that you might be able to help us? For example, if each dancer created a 'Just Giving' sponsorship page online throughout the season, families could invite school supporters, or family and business friends to give donations. Previously, a boy who did this sent LCB a cheque for £300 at the end of the season, and another girl baked cakes and raised £90! A few families have held their own local small fundraising supper or run a stall at a school fête. Every little helps. You might have a relationship with a local business that might want to take an ad in the programme – or you might want to sponsor a child's place in a future LCB company. Included in this pack is a sheet with some simple ways you and your LCB dancer can pitch in to keep the show on the road. We really do need your support.

I am sure we will have a wonderful season ahead for *Anne of Green Gables*. I look forward to discovering your talent, creativity, passion and dedication through the process.

I wish you all Merry Christmas and roll on 2020! Don't forget to read or listen to the book or watch the film over the holiday in preparation!

Congratulations and welcome to our company.

Very best wishes,
Ruth



Ruth Brill
Artistic Director

LCB MISSION

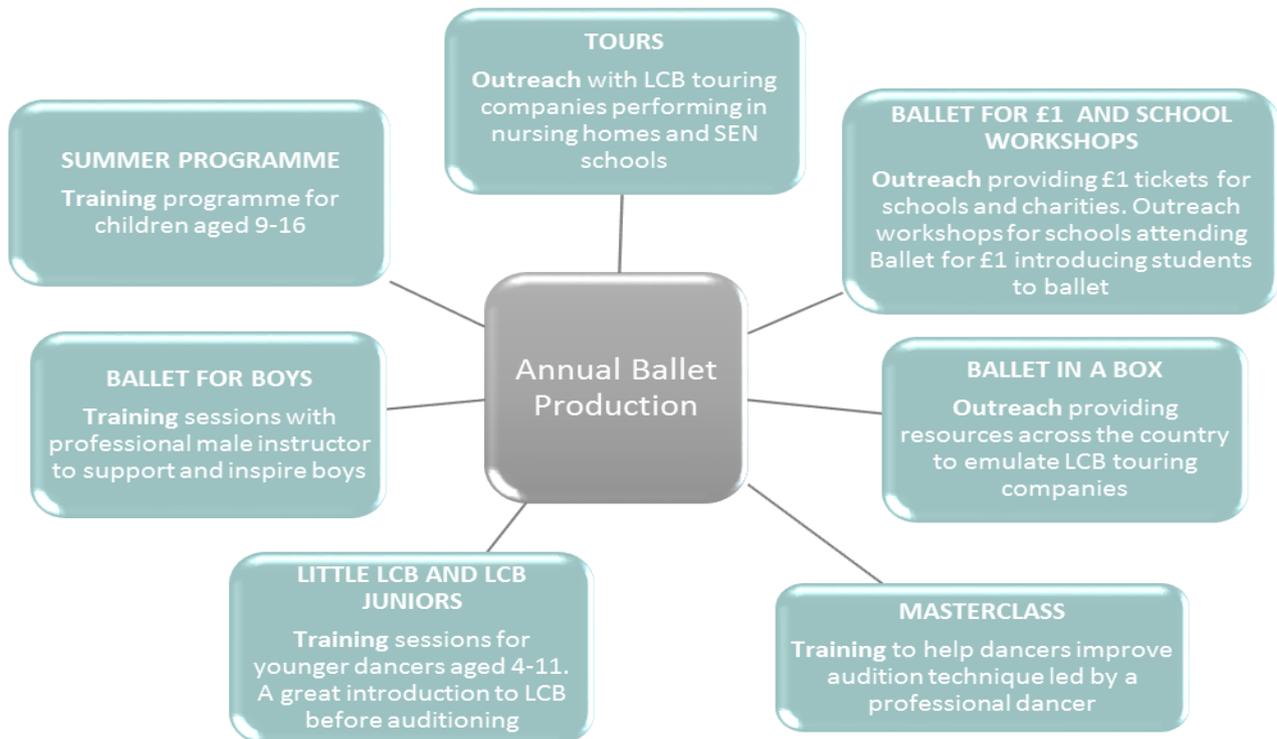
To inspire the pursuit of excellence and change lives through dance

LCB OBJECTIVES

- **Provide** free, professional quality rehearsal and performance experience to children from all backgrounds.
- **Offer** career opportunities for dancers, musicians, composers, choreographers and designers.
- **Give** information and access to ballet performances of professional quality to those who cannot afford or easily access live theatre productions.

LCB PROGRAMMES

The LCB annual production is our core work which feeds six additional programmes of outreach and training:



LCB REACH AND IMPACT

LCB touches the lives of more than 10,000 people annually

LCB Annual Ballet

600 children registered to audition for LCB this year, with 60 selected for the Company and 100+ hours of free ballet tuition offered to each child. Emerging choreographers, composers, and costume and set designers are given the opportunity to create what is, for most, their first ballet. LCB sells out 8,000 tickets each year.

Ballet for £1 and Schools Workshops

Every year 1,800 people from approximately 20 schools and 30 charities attend the *Ballet for £1* matinees on £1 tickets. Free post-ballet workshops are then run by LCB in over 20 schools, reaching 900 children each year. For most attending *Ballet for £1*, this is their first experience of ballet or live theatre.

LCB Touring Company

LCB has 3 touring companies, each with 12 dancers, giving 36 more children an LCB experience. The tour visits community centres, care homes and special educational needs schools, reaching 1,200 audience members.

Training

75 children attend LCB's summer school; an Auditions Masterclass is offered to improve audition technique and Ballet for Boys classes encourage boys to develop and retain their interest in ballet. Alongside this, our newest programme, Little LCB, allow younger dancers to develop and maybe experience LCB for the first time before auditioning.

GENERAL INFORMATION

CASTING

We treat every child in the Company equally. This means a painstaking balancing of parts and making a big effort to make sure that no child feels left out or overlooked. Inevitably, some children will have bigger roles than others as some parts carry the plot. At the minimum, every LCB member will dance in both Acts and have one featured section of dance for their smaller group.

The first provisional cast list will be sent out by the end of January. NB There may well be changes as Andrew gets to know which dancers' best suit which choreography; additional roles may be created as rehearsals progress.

COSTUMES and WARDROBE

Our costume team has a HUGE job in designing, supervising and making/altering costumes for the cast, some dancing two roles. We have succeeded in the past in making LCB productions look like "a Royal Opera House in miniature," because we have received terrific support from some very talented stitching parents.

Please, if you have **sewing skills**, do come forward to offer help! It is often the finishing of costumes that is costly. If you can help with sewing, please fill in the volunteer form and return it to the office.

Thank you for your costume contribution of £100. Of this £25 covers the cost of one pair of ballet shoes and one pair of tights for specific use during performances as well as your LCB t-shirt. You will be able to keep these after the shows have finished. The costume designer will decide on the style of shoe and colour of tights which will then be ordered for you. You will also be given an LCB company t-shirt that you must bring to all rehearsals.

SCENARIO

Anne of Green Gables ballet is based on the children's book, so please read it over Christmas! We think it is important that LCB dancers are familiar with the story of the ballet they will be performing. It would make a great Christmas stocking present! We will email a copy of the scenario once rehearsals have begun.

DVD

Every year, we make a DVD of the LCB production and clips may be made available for TV and other publicity purposes. You have given permission for your child to be featured for the DVD in the contract. DVDs will be available to parents and will be available for sale publicly.

FUNDING

It is an important part of LCB's mission that a family's financial situation does not prevent a child from taking part in the production or touring companies. LCB works hard to fundraise to cover the cost of each child's place. In the case of the production company the cost of a place is roughly £3,790. If you would like to cover all, or part, of the cost of your child's place and by doing so helps us to free up these funds to support LCB's other outreach work then please tick the appropriate box in the contract form.

RULES AND GUIDELINES OF BEHAVIOUR

All LCB rules are based on concern for the safety and well-being of the children and the efficient running of the Company. We assume mutual respect and courtesy from everybody in the LCB family and expect that all members of LCB will happily comply with these sensible rules. However, it is only fair to warn everybody that breaking the rules will not be tolerated. If any of the cardinal rules are broken, even in the last rehearsal before going to the theatre, we very regrettably will ask your son or daughter to leave LCB.

CARDINAL RULES

1. **NO LCB REHEARSAL MAY BE MISSED** other than for an audition for a vocational school. This is out of respect for the choreographer who has a huge challenge working with inexperienced dancers. We are aware that there will be conflicting exams and auditions for other performance opportunities. However, LCB dancers have made their choice to participate in 2019 with LCB. Therefore, if a dancer misses any rehearsal, we will reluctantly have to drop him or her from the Company. It is the only fair result for all the other parents and dancers who have honoured their commitment.
2. **NO LCB dancer may leave the LCB rehearsal premises alone** unless he/she is 14 or over. For those aged 14+, LCB **must have written permission** from the parents for any child to leave the Studios.

GENERAL RULES

1. **Strictly no mobile phones allowed in the rehearsal room.** For communication purposes they are allowed to bring them, but they must be put in the 'Valuables Box' upon sign in for the duration of the rehearsal. We want dancers to interact with each other and concentrate on the choreography.
2. LCB company members must obey instructions given by LCB, the rehearsal venue staff, or Peacock Theatre staff. If there is any question of doubt, consult an LCB staff member. **Anne Chadwick is the LCB representative and chaperone at all rehearsals and Emily will be assisting and representing the office.**
3. Swearing or foul language will not be tolerated under any circumstances. We expect LCB members to treat each other and staff with respect, kindness and good humour.
4. Please do not chat in the studio when the choreographer is working. 60 little whispers equal a roar in the studio!
5. No chewing gum. No jewellery in rehearsals (other than small studs for pierced ears).
6. Parents are not allowed in the rehearsal studio unless they are helping during performance week, which may require their presence from Easter week onwards. Unfortunately, it is distracting for the children and for the choreographer to have parents present. There will be one open parents' rehearsal and a parent meet and greet to which you will be invited (date and time to be confirmed).
7. Personal items should be named. We regret that neither LCB or the rehearsal studios can be responsible for lost items.
8. During your time with LCB, all dancers are ambassadors for the company. Your social media may show up in connection to LCB and we therefore ask that you are mindful of what you post.
9. LCB members are responsible for throwing away their litter from snacks and drinks. This is a constant problem and diminishes the reputation of the company unnecessarily. There are very few rehearsal spaces in London and it would be a tragedy to lose our home all for the sake of leftover sandwiches! It is not the responsibility of Anne Chadwick to clear up rubbish at the end of the day.

Peacock Theatre Rules

The fundamental safety rule is that no children are allowed on stage or in the wings unless they are called. Those due to start rehearsing should wait in the dressing rooms. Backstage can be a dangerous place. Children are chaperoned at all times whilst at the theatre, and we will be asking parents to volunteer to help us with this. Please let us know if you have a chaperone licence or are happy to apply for one. Anne Chadwick will explain further at rehearsals.

REHEARSALS

NO REHEARSAL CAN BE MISSED, so please do not ask. Remember how many other children would love to have had your place in the company. Please note, if you are scheduled for a vocational school audition, please inform the office asap. We need to know before rehearsal schedules are sent out a fortnight before each rehearsal, so we would ideally have at least 3 weeks' notice, where possible.

Rehearsals start promptly. You must be in rehearsal clothes, ready to dance and in the studio at your start time. If you are held up in traffic, or there is an emergency, call **Anne Chadwick** on **07771 687322** as earlier as possible. This number is for **SUNDAY REHEARSALS ONLY**, not for use during the week. Please do not call the rehearsal venue. The LCB office is closed on weekends.

WHAT TO BRING & WEAR

- Girls - leotard, soft ballet shoes
- Boys – leotards, tights and ballet shoes
- LCB t-shirt which will be handed out at a rehearsal in March (**NB no other logos allowed** when photos are being taken)
- Notebook for taking notes on your choreography
- Pen/pencil
- Snack (**no nuts**). You will be updated if any children have any other food allergies.
- Water
- Book or quiet activity to occupy whilst others rehearse if needed.

SCHEDULES

Strict attendance is essential, not just as a courtesy to the ballet staff, LCB and your peers, but also because the choreography scheduling is tight.

The ballet mistress will send you rehearsal schedules by email. covering a two-week period. She is to be contacted regarding any rehearsal or schedule enquires. For general enquiries please contact the office: 020 8969 1555.

Rehearsal days are long and there will be waiting around. In rare cases, you might be called and dance very little as much depends on the progress of the group. As we get through the process the schedule will become more accurate.

Every endeavour will be made for you to receive a detailed rehearsal schedule. Depending on your role, some of you may have 2 weeks in a row free occasionally. However please assume you will be needed every Sunday unless told otherwise. If for any reason, there is a last-minute change; we will telephone you. Soloists may have additional rehearsal sessions; the time and place to be agreed between the choreographer and the parent/guardian.

GENERAL NOTES

Parents/Guardians - Please don't be late to collect your child, **e.g. arrive by 4.50pm for collection at 5pm.**

Sharing Lifts - We will send out the Company address list in late December and some parents might like to get together to share lifts to and from rehearsals. **If you do not want your address to be circulated please let the office know before the 18th of January by emailing admin@londonchildrensballet.com.**

WHO TO CONTACT?

Your main point of contact throughout the LCB season should be the **LCB office**. Please call the office team during office hours (Monday – Friday, 9am -5pm) with any queries or concerns you might have. We very much look forward to getting to know you all.

As mentioned the Leanne (ballet mistress) will be your first point of contact with regards to scheduling queries and at no point should you ever directly contact the choreographer.

Contacts

Main point of contact for all questions/communication

(including advising LCB of upcoming vocational auditions)

Programmes Manager

LARA WATERFIELD (lara@londonchildrensballet.com) **0208 9691555**



Please contact Lara if you know a charity that would benefit from being part of our **BALLET FOR £1 Matinée**. We are particularly looking for charities that work with the elderly or children in London. Please also contact Lara if you are not receiving LCB company communications or if you have any queries about the costume contribution, **FRONT OF HOUSE VOLUNTEERING** during the production week, such as selling programmes or assisting with the patrons at the Ballet for £1 matinees. Also, if you have any **FUNDRAISING IDEAS** (such as bake sale, sponsored run, giving through work etc.)

LCB Chaperone and Company Co-ordinator

ANNE CHADWICK (chadwickanne@ymail.com)

'On the day' rehearsal day contact (e.g. to report illness) Telephone: **07771 687 322**



Please note, the LCB office is closed at weekends, so you should contact Anne if you need to report an illness or delay in arrival on rehearsal day.

Anne has been our company Chaperone for 14 years. You will all get to know Anne very well during your time with LCB and she will be able to point you in the right direction if you have any queries. Please let Anne know if you would like to chaperone during production week.

Operations Director

VICTORIA DAVISON (victoria.davison@londonchildrensballet.com)



Please contact Victoria if you would like to discuss your child's experience of LCB. Victoria's also the one to speak to if you have any ideas for the development, growth or strategic direction of the charity. Victoria manages our relationships with our sponsors and the corporates that support LCB to make this experience possible. Please also contact Victoria if you own or know a business that would be interested in **ADVERTISING** in the LCB production programme. Victoria is also the LCB team member to contact if you have any **PRESS** connections.

Production Assistant

EMILY BROOKS (emily@londonchildrensballet.com)

Please speak to Emily if you have any queries, as she will be representing the office team during rehearsals. Emily will also oversee **SOCIAL MEDIA** content. Please speak to Emily and Anne about chaperone licences. We encourage all parents to contact their councils as soon as possible to start the process of applying.





Creative Director

ZOE VICKERMAN (zoe@londonchildrensballet.com)

Zoe has written the LCB scenario for the ballet of 'Anne of Green Gables.' Please contact Zoe if you know a ballet school who would be interested in LCB's **BALLET IN A BOX** and creating their own touring company. We are particularly looking for ballet schools outside London.



Communications and Events Manager

AMANDA CHRISTIE (amanda@londonchildrensballet.com)

Amanda sits within LCB's Fundraising team working on our large events. She will be organising our Premiere evening for *Anne of Green Gables*. Please contact Amanda if you have any questions about the **PREMIERE**. She also organises our events and premiere committees.



Finance Manager

LYNDA HEAVEY (lynda@londonchildrensballet.com)

Lynda manages LCB's finances and is an integral member of the office team.

CREATIVE STAFF

Artistic Director

RUTH BRILL



Ruth danced with London Children's Ballet from 2000-2003. She trained at Tring Park School for the Performing Arts and English National Ballet School. She danced with English National Ballet from 2007-2012, then Birmingham Royal Ballet (BRB),

attracted by their broader repertoire and the opportunity to work with David Bintley.

Ballet Mistress

LEANNE COPE



Leanne Cope is a former First Artist of The Royal Ballet. Cope trained at The Royal Ballet School and graduated into the Company in 2003, promoted to First Artist in 2009. She retired from the Company in 2016 to focus on her work on Broadway, having taken a sabbatical from the Company the previous two

Seasons to create the role of Lise Dassin in Christopher Wheeldon's award-winning *An American in Paris*.

Choreographer

ANDREW MCNICOL



Andrew is a freelance British choreographer. His choreographic work began whilst studying at The Royal Ballet School, where he won the Kenneth MacMillan choreographic competition. Andrew has choreographed in a range of contexts including for The Royal Ballet Opening the New Gala, The Royal Ballet of Flanders, The New

York Choreographic Institute, Northern Ballet, Birmingham Royal Ballet Workshops, The London Olympics, New English Ballet Theatre, The Royal Ballet Upper School, Northern Ballet Academy, Ballet Central, The National Youth Ballet and Dance East.

Composer

GUS NICHOLSON



Gus is really looking forward to the collaborative process with the creative team; writing a ballet is an exciting new challenge for me and it's a wonderful story to be working on. Gus studied at The Royal College of Music as a scholar on the Composition for Screen master's programme and graduated with the Joseph Horowitz Composition Prize.

Musical Director

PHILIP HESKETH



LCB'S Musical Director for 19 years, has heroically pulled together and led LCB's orchestra. He is sought after as a much-respected freelance conductor, yet he has rooted LCB's season in his calendar and has never let us down. Philip's first job on leaving Music College was in the Orchestra of the

Sadler's Wells Royal Ballet. He had no previous experience of dance at all. He quickly grew to love this strange world and has been involved in music for ballet ever since, firstly as a cellist and then, for more than 20 years, as a conductor. He has worked with some of the greatest dancers in the world and says that accompanying dance is one of the most fascinating and satisfying things a musician can do.

Rehearsal Pianist

MARK WEBSTER



Mark is delighted to be working once more with London Children's Ballet. He has been our company pianist for many years now and we love working with him. Mark completed his studies at Birmingham

University before working at Elmhurst Ballet School combining solo/duo recitals with teaching. After being offered a position with a French ballet company, Mark has worked with all the leading schools and companies in England, including 12 years at the Royal Ballet School. He is currently full-time at English National Ballet School.

Production Manager

JAMES SMITH



This is James' ninth ballet with LCB and his fourth as production manager. His production management credits include Street of Dreams (UK arena tour), Ordinary Days (Trafalgar Studios, London), corporate events for BT, Santander, Barclays, Lush, Avis, Sony, GlaxoSmithKline and Volkswagen

Group, and prestige events including Lionel Richie (Roundhouse), Will Young (Morocco) and Take That in Paris. James is also an international lighting designer whose work can be seen from New York to London.

Lighting Designer

MARK JONATHAN



Mark has previously lit A Little Princess 2004, Jane Eyre 2008, The Secret Garden 2013, Nanny McPhee, Snow White 2015, Little Lord Fauntleroy and Ballet Shoes 2019 for LCB. He started his theatre career in the National Youth Theatre and is passionate about the opportunities that LCB provides to young dancers.

When Mark isn't lighting ballets, operas, plays and musicals he likes to ski off-piste in deep powder snow in the Alps. He speaks four languages and is also a qualified ski teacher.

Set Designer

TBC

Costume Designer

ELIN STEELE



Elin is a UK based set and costume designer, working across dance, theatre, opera, and film.

As part of her degree she developed skills in model making and costume construction, carrying out specialisms in design for dance and period costume. She is a recipient of the

Cardiff New Theatre Society Award and the Ashley Family Foundation Scholarship, as well as the Margaret Amelia Thomas Award.

Costume Supervisor

TBC

Costume Assistant

TBC

TICKET INFORMATION

PREMIERE – 18 June 2020

The Première is the main LCB annual fundraising event. On this night only 100% of the tickets proceeds come directly to LCB. **Tickets are only available via the LCB office or website and are not available via the Sadler's Well's website.** Tickets are priced at £45, £75, £100 with super seats at £150 (Super seats include a backstage meet and greet with cast) All tickets include a goody bag and ice cream for children. If you have any queries, please email Amanda: amanda@londonchildrensballet.com. Première tickets are now on sale and seating is allocated on a first come, first served basis.

General Tickets for the Friday, Saturday and Sunday performances are on sale through the Peacock Theatre Box Office 0844 412 4322 (or online from www.sadlerswells.com). The price band ranges from, ranging from £14.00 to £39.00 with a limited number of £55/£65. The tickets will sell out, so please book early as the shows are always very popular and will sell out.

PERFORMANCES / TICKET PRICES 5-7 JULY 2019

DATE	Matinee performance time	Evening performance time	PRICES
Thursday 18 June	1:00 pm (Ballet for £1 Charities) *	7:00 pm PREMIERE**	£45, £75, £100, £150
Friday 19 June	12 noon (Ballet for £1 Schools) *	6:30 pm	£14 to £65
Saturday 20 June	1:30 pm	5:30 pm	£14 to £65
Sunday 21 June	12:30 pm	4:30 pm	£14 to £65

* Not available for booking. By invitation only

** Bookings via the LCB office or website.

If you know of a charity or community group in a deprived area that would be interested in attending our sponsored weekday matinees, please email Lara - lara@londonchildrensballet.com

URGENT ACTION

Check list

- Licences to perform application (return on or by Sunday 12th January).
- Read the LCB scenario (to be sent soon) and novel (this will help you at casting).

LICENCES TO PERFORM

VERY IMPORTANT – read carefully

Each child is required, **by law**, to secure a Licence to Perform. Unless we receive the licence in time for the performance your child will unfortunately **NOT BE ABLE TO TAKE PART**.

It is URGENT that parents complete the attached form. The procedure is quite simple but it can take **several months** for local authorities to process the application. Although the **applicant** for the Licence to Perform is 'London Children's Ballet', we ask the parent complete the latter part of the form attached to help the office, otherwise we would have to employ someone to process them all. Your co-operation in getting this under way immediately will be much appreciated.

Though we have included a paper version here, if you would prefer a digital copy, please email Lara at lara@londonchildrensballet.com.

Here is what you do: PLEASE READ VERY CAREFULLY

- 1.** Complete the attached **Standard Child Performance and Activities Licence Application Form**. We have started it, and completed the initial questions, but please complete the form from Part 1, question 17 through to the end. If you have any questions, please call Lara.
- 2.** **PLEASE DO NOT DATE YOUR SIGNATURE!** LCB will add this when it is sent.
- 3.** Once completed, please send the form to the office **for signature by LCB**. Please do this no later than **January 12, 2020**. Please bring to casting along with a copy of the below documents.
- 4.** Please send the following to us either in the post or high-quality electronic versions by email.
 1. A passport sized photograph of your child
 2. A signed letter on headed paper from the head teacher of your child's academic school giving permission to have time off during performance week (see general schedule for dates)
 3. A copy of your child's birth certificate
- 5.** LCB will then send the license to your councils. If we need anything else to support the application, we will let you know.

Anne of Green Gables: Rehearsal & Performance Schedule

Important Note!! Our publicity photoshoot will take place on the **2nd February**. Please keep the whole of this day free until we confirm which company members will be required following on from our casting day.

Rehearsal Venues:

Westminster Kingsway College
King's Cross Centre
211 Grays Inn Rd,
London WC1X 8RA

Peacock Theatre
Portugal Street
London
WC2A 2HT

Dates:

Company Casting	Sunday 12 January	Westminster Kingsway College
Photoshoot	2 nd February	
Rehearsals	Sunday 9 February	Westminster Kingsway College
	Sunday 1 March	Westminster Kingsway College
	Sunday 8 March	Westminster Kingsway College
	Sunday 15 March	Westminster Kingsway College
	Sunday 22 March	Westminster Kingsway College
	Sunday 29 March	Westminster Kingsway College
	Sunday 5 April	Westminster Kingsway College
	Tuesday 14 April	Westminster Kingsway College
	Wednesday 15 April	Westminster Kingsway College
	Thursday 16 April	Westminster Kingsway College
	Friday 17 April	Westminster Kingsway College
	Saturday 18 April	Westminster Kingsway College
	Sunday 19 April	Westminster Kingsway College
	Sunday 26 April	Westminster Kingsway College
	Sunday 3 May	Westminster Kingsway College
	Saturday 9 May	Westminster Kingsway College
	Sunday 10 May	Westminster Kingsway College
	Sunday 17 May	Westminster Kingsway College
	Sunday 24 May	Westminster Kingsway College
	Monday 25 May	Westminster Kingsway College
	Tuesday 26 May	TBC
	Wednesday 27 May	TBC
	Thursday 28 May	TBC
	Friday 29 May	TBC
	Sunday 31 May	Westminster Kingsway College
	Sunday 7 June	Westminster Kingsway College
	Sunday 14 June	Westminster Kingsway College
Theatre Rehearsals	Tuesday 16 June	Peacock Theatre
	Wednesday 17 June	Peacock Theatre
Performances	Thursday 18 June	Peacock Theatre
	Friday 19 June	Peacock Theatre
	Saturday 20 June	Peacock Theatre
	Sunday 21 June	Peacock Theatre

Please note, the LCB Company is required to attend all rehearsals for which they are called. Rehearsal schedules are sent out a fortnight in advance of any rehearsal to allow families to plan, and all the dates must be kept free until the rehearsal schedule is published. Out of respect to the choreographer and fellow company members, dancers cannot be given permission to miss a rehearsal for any reason except auditions for vocational (full-time) ballet training. We encourage dancers to speak to their teachers early to avoid clashes with exams etc. wherever possible.