



SILHOUETTE NEWS – 8th EDITION

What an incredible year we have had at Silhouette! It has been an honour and a pleasure working with all the young people this year and we have loved every minute of it. The performances have been exceptional, and it has been brilliant to watch the progress that our young people have made throughout their time at Silhouette. The highlight of the year was our performance on the 13th July and I can honestly say – you blew everyone away! Have a great Summer holiday everyone and we will see you soon!

PLEASE REMEMBER

- **There are still some families that owe fees from last term.** Please could these be paid **immediately**, or could you contact me if there are any difficulties. I have sent out individual letters to chase this up.
- You are able to pay **weekly, monthly or termly**. We have made it as **CHEAP** and as **EASY** as possible to pay. Please support us by paying your fees.

SIGNING UP FOR NEXT YEAR

- Next term will start on **7th September** with our musical theatre sessions.
- You will be sent a schedule in the next few weeks where you can sign up for the classes that you would like for your child.
- **PLEASE BE AWARE** – we can only run a class if there are **more than 15 young people involved**. If there is less than that then we **may have to cancel some sessions**.
- You sign your child up by **going online** and completing the form. The sign up form can be found on this link:
https://forms.office.com/Pages/ResponsePage.aspx?id=2qcLu0cuTEaLGxBACKC8mX_ZSbpkbc9Nu-XLxxphp5VUNUxTVjVGSVNKWFbVMVVFSEIUUVhYWEpTWC4u
- **PLEASE BE AWARE** – If you have not fully paid for the classes that you have already attended then you will not be able to sign up for the 2019 / 2020 season.
- Once we have sorted out all the numbers for the classes then we will inform everyone which classes will be running next term.

COSTINGS

- Each class will cost **£5.00 for the session**, no matter the length.
- If your child does **three sessions that will now be £15.00 a week**. This is an increase of £3.00 a week (only £1.00 a session!)
- **HOWEVER** – if your child would like to do more than three sessions then you **will need to come and speak to us** and we will talk to you about finance for these sessions and our expectations. We will provide discounts for more than three sessions, but we would like to do this on a case, by case basis.
- If money is preventing you signing your child up for more sessions then **please come and see us**. We are looking at running a **bursary scheme** for those families that need support. We never want finance to be a restrictive factor!
- We will have a **NEW BANK ACCOUNT** as of September and the details are now:
Name: **Silhouette Youth** Account number: **81996950** Sort Code: **60-15-55**
- You can pay termly, weekly or monthly by cash, cheque or bank transfer. This is to make it easier for you.
- **Please remember** – if you miss a class you **still need to pay for these sessions**. This is the same in every youth theatre across the country.

CHANGES FOR SEPTEMBER

We had a meeting with our operations group made of 15 young people. We also had a session with a group of parents to look at what is working and what needs to improve. **PLEASE READ THE ATTACHED SHEET.**

- Attendance to sessions and lateness is an issue. We are going to monitor attendance to sessions, and we will speak to parents if we feel there is a problem. If your child is not going to attend a session or will be late **YOU MUST** let us know. If we do not know this will be recorded as an absence without any reason.
- We have included **music sessions** in the schedule, and we have also decided to run an **adult session**. We are going to look at running **street dance sessions** when we get a practitioner. **Film sessions** will also start in September. Once again this will all depend on getting at **least 15 people to sign up** for a session.
- We are also looking at running band sessions at Silhouette and we will let you know a bit more about that when we have found a practitioner.
- You sign up for the **TERM**. If you decide to quit half way through, then you will still have to **PAY FOR THE WHOLE TERM**. You then **MUST** let us know by email that you will not be continuing and the reasons why please.
- We are having our first **ADULT SESSION** (21 and above) on **Monday 16th September** from **7:00 pm to 8:30 pm**. **EVERYONE** is welcome, and the first session is **FREE!** Every week we will work on songs, dances and drama from a chosen musical. Due to the intensity of being an adult, you will be able to **drop in to the sessions that you can make**. There is **no stress, no panic, no massive performance** at the end – this is just for a group of adults that want to **destress, sing, dance, act and enjoy themselves**. See you there!

HOW CAN YOU HELP

- We are having a **OPEN DAY on the 7th September** where people can come in for **FREE** and experience a Silhouette session. If you know anyone that would be interested, **PLEASE** let them know! Times are as follows:
8:30 – 9:30 am – Year 1 and 2 children.
9:30 – 11:30 am – Year 3 to Year 5.
11:30 – 1:30 pm – Year 6 to 12 years old.
1:30 – 3:30 pm – Teen group.
- Some of you have said that you would like to help out with **fundraising and volunteering** at Silhouette. The answer is **YES PLEASE**. We are having an open meeting on **Thursday 5th September at 6:00 pm** and we would love it if you could come along and offer your support. **WE NEED YOU!!!!**
- Bring a friend – if your child has a friend that would like to come along and see what they do then we will have a **BRING A FRIEND** session on **Saturday 14th September**.

YOGA SESSIONS

If you'd like to achieve all or just some of the following: lose weight, get strong, combat daily stress, aid digestion and practice some self-care Then why not try Shanti Dharma Yoga?

From classic to restorative, power to HIIT and Yin, some classes fused with Tai Chi, Qi Gong, Dance and Somatic movement, **we offer a large range of yoga styles to suit all ages and abilities**. You will also learn **mindfulness techniques to reduce your stress levels, calm your mind, and aid restful sleep**.

We currently have spaces available for our classes on **Wednesday evening's from 19:45-20:45**. All ages and abilities welcome, no equipment needed.

See my Social media for prices and details:

Facebook – <https://www.facebook.com/shantidharmayoga/>

Instagram – <https://www.instagram.com/shantidharmayoga/>,

twitter – <https://twitter.com/sarahemalka16>,

LinkedIn: www.linkedin.com/in/sarah-malka-shantidharmayoga

Website: www.shantidharma.co.uk

Come along this Wednesday the 17th July at 19.45 for a FREE taster session



SILHOUETTE SESSIONS

Day	Session 1	Session 2	Session 3	Session 4
MONDAY	4:30 – 5:30 pm Primary Dance and Choreography.	4:30 – 5:30 pm Songwriting and instrument sessions – Intermediate and teen.	5:30 – 7:00 pm Performance dance group. (You have to attend Tuesday as well.)	5:30 – 6:30 pm Songwriting and instrument sessions – Intermediate and teen.
Adult (19 and above) Musical Theatre – starts on Monday 16th September and runs from 7:00 to 8:30 pm.				
TUESDAY	4:30 – 5:30 Film making sessions.	5:30 – 7:30 pm Dance Skills and Choreography.	Yoga sessions from 7:45 to 8:45 pm – please book directly with Sarah – details on previous page.	
WEDNESDAY	4:30 – 5:30 pm Music sessions.	5:30 – 7:30 pm Midsummer Nights Dream. This is for anyone from Year 5 and above.		
THURSDAY	5:00 – 6:30 pm Primary and Intermediate Drama.	6:30 – 8:00 pm Teen Drama.		
SATURDAY	8:30 – 9:30 pm Year 1 and 2 Musical Theatre.	9:30 – 11:30 pm Primary Musical Theatre. Up to Year 6.	11:30 – 1:30 pm Intermediate Musical Theatre. Young people in secondary school.	1:30 – 3:30 pm Teen Musical Theatre. Must be 13 years or over. Exceptions apply.

SUMMER SESSIONS

- We are going to run **Holiday sessions** this year at Silhouette Studios **from 9:30 am to 2:30 pm.**
- There will be a **break at 12:00** and you will need to bring a **packed lunch** or your parents need to **give you permission** to go and buy food in the centre.
- **Every day we will work on something new** so that means people can come when they are available and won't have to worry about missing sessions.
- We are **opening up the sessions to the public**, so new young people will be joining us.
- Sessions are for young people who are in **Year 3 and above.**
- **The day will cost £10.00** and you can pay when you turn up to the sessions.

Date and Time	Explanation	How to book – by 20 th July!
Tuesday 30th July Wednesday 31st July Thursday 1st August.	9:30 am to 2:30 pm every day. Bring a packed lunch. You will need to pay £10.00 on the day or online.	Please email leighwol@okudala.com to book a session. Once booked – you will need to pay for the session.
Tuesday 6th August Wednesday 7th August Thursday 8th August.	9:30 am to 2:30 pm every day. Bring a packed lunch. You will need to pay £10.00 on the day or online.	Please email leighwol@okudala.com to book a session. Once booked – you will need to pay for the session.
Tuesday 13th August Wednesday 14th August Thursday 15th August.	9:30 am to 2:30 pm every day. Bring a packed lunch. You will need to pay £10.00 on the day or online.	Please email leighwol@okudala.com to book a session. Once booked – you will need to pay for the session.

WHAT YOU SAID WORKED WELL THIS YEAR

- We like the concept of setting up and taking down in 10 and performing anywhere at anytime.
- We feel like we have 'pulled off' most of the things that we have done this year.
- Multiple casting has worked because everyone has had an opportunity.
- We like the fact that we spend time of learning how to improvise and develop our key skills.
- We have collaborated well this year.
- We like the fact that we have performed a lot and constantly.
- We have pulled together as a group.
- We all come from different backgrounds and this makes Silhouette different.
- We work well as a team and we get on.
- We like the fact that other people have joined and slotted in straight away.
- Anyone can join when they want and we accept them and support them.
- There is a real family feel about the work we do at Silhouette.
- We know that we have a say in the work that goes on and in the sessions. This makes us feel involved and part of everything that happens.
- The sessions are cheap and affordable which means that everyone can access them.
- The ethos here is so different to everywhere else and this makes it different.
- We haven't lost the core of what LPAA was, or what we wanted to achieve.
- There are no auditions to get parts at Silhouette. This makes it much better.
- There is a constant high standard of performance.
- My children would live here if they could!
- They always want to do more than they are able to do because of time.
- They feel they are treated like individuals and that they are listened to.
- They feel comfortable and safe here and they give everything a go.
- This is not school!
- They get to work with younger and older children.
- Their opinion is sought and acted upon.
- They feel part of what we are creating as they are creating it.
- Silhouette means everything to them!
- There is such a range of activities.
- We do things differently to others, and this makes it so much better.

WHAT YOU SAID NEEDS DEVELOPING

- There are times when young people have dropped in and out of the sessions and this has made it difficult on others.
- There needs to be some sort of sanction or consequence for people who are consistently late or absent.
- There are times when some people do not put 100% in to a session.
- Everyone needs to be on time and punctual.
- If you cannot make a session you must let Leigh or Sam know.
- We need to make sure that we use props and costume as early on as possible. Not at the last minute!
- We think we should take Silhouette out there a bit more and engage with festivals and events.
- There is lots of time wasting when one or two are not focused.
- We need to get other people to join up so that we can build Silhouette.
- It would be great to get more people to come in and talk to us and work with us. Industry professionals etc.
- We need to have more opportunities to learn about backstage, costume, props etc.
- We need to celebrate solo talents a bit more.
- It would be great to have street dance sessions.
- If you don't turn up to a session then you must provide a valid reason.
- We need to get more well known.
- We need to develop our leadership skills now and make use of the talents that we have at Silhouette.
- It might be good to look at dance ability groups.
- It would be good to extend performance by creating a performance group.
- We need more singing and more vocal training. We need to develop our choirs.
- It would be good to look at Tap classes.
- We need to develop the music side of Silhouette so that it comes up to the standard of the Dance and Drama pieces.
- We need to have at least one performance a year where we go for big costume, backdrop etc. The young people can take charge of these parts of the piece.
- There are times when I do not get replies to my emails and we need to make greater use of Facebook.
- We should get parents more involved in fundraising and from September we should make more use of their skills and abilities.
- It would be great to have an adult class. Something that is fun and enjoyable and can allow us to just have a really good time!



WHAT WE HAVE DONE ABOUT THIS?

- We have **changed the schedule** of the sessions we are offering next year based on what you said you would like to be involved with. Please remember – we need a minimum of 15 young people / adults to run these sessions.
- We are **updating our expectations sign-up sheet** to include the attendance and punctuality concerns that you have had. We will be asking all parents to sign these again.
- You said you **would like to be more involved** and we have set a date for you to come along and be part of Silhouette, as either a volunteer or to help raise funds.
- We are starting a **leadership programme** for our young people so that they can develop their skills at Silhouette and become future leaders.
- We have created an **operations group** of young people who will meet on a monthly basis to have an active say in the future of Silhouette.
- We have continued to keep the **sessions affordable** at only £5.00 a session.
- We are developing a **bursary scheme** to support families that would like to involve their young people in more sessions during the week.
- We are **DEFINITELY** taking Silhouette out next year. We are going to continue working with the RSC, we are working with the National Theatre, we are continuing our partnership with the Royal Derngate and the list goes on!
- We are going to send a **basic timetable of the YEAR** so that you can put dates and times in the diary far in advance.
- We are saying that you **HAVE TO** sign up for a term and if you decide you want to quit, you have to see the term through and will have to continue paying.
- We are going to get **industry professionals** in to talk to our young people and these sessions will be open to **EVERYONE** – including parents that would like to come along. We have some VERY exciting people coming in to talk to us next year!
- We are going to get professionals in to support our young people with **audition technique, casting and a possible agent** to support families if that is what they would like to do.
- We have set a range of **performance opportunities for next year** and we will be sharing these with you on the calendar and the schedule.
- We are going to keep true to the **vision and values of Silhouette** and we have these on the wall in the studio. I will be sending these out once I have shared them with the operations group to see if I have missed anything!
- We are going to look at our **communication strategy** and you will receive some information in September as we change over to a new email address and bank statements.
- As you can see your **views and opinions are very important to us** and we listen to them. It is about constant review, reflection and improvement. Thank you for all being so honest and supportive.