



The following list was written in response to individuals and organisations asking for guidance about better representation in their dance school and more inclusivity in their teaching practise.

A concise guide to increasing equality in your ballet school:

1. Are you making your students and their families feel welcome and at ease at your school? (If you can say Tchaikovsky you can say Adesuwa).
2. Are you ensuring your students know they have a choice to wear shoes and tights in either pink, bronze or brown? Help them find a supplier.
3. Can you make sure your students are exposed to role models reflective of them throughout your school? Posters, pictures, sharing video links, organising outings? One excellent example in the UK is to see Ballet Black! (Yes, shameless plug)
4. Can you hire a diverse ballet teacher? If your school is small or fully staffed, can you have a guest teacher come in? (Not just during Black History Month)
5. Can you check that your teaching staff understand the open and welcoming atmosphere you want to create? Often the organisation has the right policy, but the humans within it are not there yet.
6. Hair for ballet: yes, it needs to be off the face and neck for ballet training, but that can be done with braided hair, Afros or dreadlocks.

This is a starter guide, listed in no particular order, and is not a definitive list.

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#ChangeNotTrend