Kirkcudbright Academy

Social Dance Policy

Updated Jan 2025

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Social Dancing is an important and valued part of the culture and heritage at Kirkcudbright Academy. Our Candlemas Dance is a unique feature of our school calendar and has run almost continuously for over a hundred years, with just a couple of years where it didn't take place due to the Second World War and the Global Covid pandemic. All pupils are taught social dancing as part of their PE lessons and are encouraged to attend and participate in the formal dances. Dress at the dances is expected to be smart and we welcome the wearing of traditional Scottish dress, i.e. kilts.

Historically social dance has assigned roles to the participants based on their gender, at Kirkcudbright Academy we do not support this and dance roles will be based only on position on the floor. Instructions to participants will be given using non-gendered language, e.g. "As to the middle, Bs step left, etc." In this way everyone is encouraged to participate equally with no regard to gender.