

FREQUENTLY ASKED QUESTIONS

Admissions & Eligibility

1. What is the minimum age to join?

Children must have completed 6 years and entered their 7th year to enroll in regular batches. For adult batches, there is no age limit.

2. Do you accept beginners?

Yes. Beginners are welcome across age groups, provided they are willing to learn with discipline and consistency.

3. When can beginners join?

Admissions for beginners are typically open twice a year.

Since batches are structured and progress-oriented, we do not follow rolling admissions.

When you reach out to us, we will guide you on the next available intake that is closest for you.

Training Approach & Style

. What style of Bharatanatyam do you teach?

We train students in a blend of Pandanallur and Vazhuvoor bani, while also going beyond rigid stylistic boundaries.

Our approach focuses on:

- * Strong classical foundation
- * Aesthetic refinement
- * Exposure to diverse elements within Bharatanatyam

Students are also introduced to aspects of Bharatanatyam, giving them a broader artistic perspective.

Class Structure & Learning

1. What does a typical class include?

Training at Chinmudra is holistic and includes:

- * Adavus (basic technique)
- * Choreography (items)
- * Abhinaya (expression)
- * Rhythm and tala understanding
- * Theoretical knowledge

2. Is theory important in dance training?

Yes. Bharatanatyam is not just physical movement—it is a shastra-based art form.

Students are trained to understand the theory alongside practice.

Exams & Certification

1. Do students appear for exams?

Yes. Students are trained and presented for exams conducted by:

* **Surobharati Kala Kendra**

* **Dr. Gangubai Hanagal Music and Performing Arts University**

2. What levels do students appear for?

* Junior

* Senior

* Vidwat (advanced level)

3. What is the academy's exam record?

We have presented 100+ students, all of whom have performed with distinction.

However, our focus remains:

The discipline, consistency, and sadhana that the exam journey builds.

Attendance, Discipline & Practice

1. How important is attendance?

Extremely important. Bharatanatyam requires:

* Consistent practice

* Regular attendance

* Continuous revision

Irregular attendance affects progress significantly.

2. Is home practice necessary?

Yes. Students are expected to practice regularly at home to build strength, stamina, and clarity.

3. What values does the academy emphasize?

Chinmudra strongly believes in:

* Discipline

* Respect for the art form

* Commitment

* Cultural grounding (samskara)

Performances & Exposure

1. How often do students perform?

All students perform once a year during the Annual Day.

2. Are there other performance opportunities?

Yes. We have a dedicated Performing Unit, where:

* Students are selected through audition

* They receive advanced training

* They perform at temples, festivals, and cultural events

Arangetram (Rangapravesha)

1. How long does it take to reach Arangetram?
There is no fixed timeline.

It depends on:

- * Regularity
- * Dedication
- * Technical clarity
- * Emotional maturity
- * Understanding of the art form

2. Is Arangetram compulsory?

No. It is a milestone, not a requirement.

Students are guided toward it only when they are truly ready.

Batching & Progression

1. How are students grouped?

Students are grouped based on:

- * Age
- * Level
- * Learning pace

Progression is structured and personalized.

Dress Code & Presentation

Is there a specific dress code?

Yes. Students are expected to attend class in appropriate practice attire, maintaining neatness and discipline.

Presentation and grooming are considered an essential part of dance training.

For Parents

What can parents expect from the training?

At Chinmudra, the goal is not just to teach dance, but to:

- * Build discipline
- * Develop confidence
- * Instill cultural values
- * Nurture artistic expression

For Adult Learners

Is it too late to start Bharatanatyam as an adult?

Not at all. Adult batches are designed to:

- * Respect individual pace
- * Build strength gradually
- * Provide a fulfilling learning experience