

# General Information



## Our History

Thank you for your interest in Dinky Dancers. Established in 2002, Dinky Dancers provides pre-school children with an experience that truly develops physical skills, captures imagination, enhances musicality and is of the highest quality.

Lorry Slater, founder of Dinky Dancers, wanted a physical, imaginative, movement based programme that she could enjoy with her four children. It didn't exist and so, with a professional background in Physical Education, Performing Arts and Special Educational Needs, she developed her own exciting programme.

Dinky Dancers is now a leading activity provider for pre-school aged children and the largest physical, creative movement company in Hertfordshire.

Responding to a need for specialist activities within the community that combined creative, physical and musical elements, Dinky Dancers developed exciting, imaginative, educational programmes for children and adults to take part in together. Our themed, multi-sensory, progressive classes will enhance children's early years development. Dinky Dancers provides the opportunity for boys and girls to enjoy a carefully researched programme of dance, movement, music and P.E activities.

## What Is Dinky Dancers?

Dinky Dancers is a tried and tested, physical and creative movement based programme that will stimulate, inspire and motivate all children regardless of their gender, background or ability. Children are encouraged to work together through our creative, physical and developmental programme to build skills including:

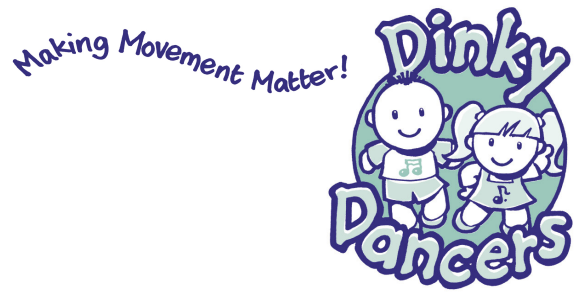
Balance, Rhythm, Confidence, Ball Skills, Hand-Eye Coordination, Running, Hopping, Jumping, Skipping, Sliding, Turning and Rolling.

## The Head Office Team

Our head office team brings a vast amount of experience and expertise in all the requisite areas of our business. Curriculum development specialists, early years consultants, teachers, child psychologist and business development managers combine to form a team that is available to support your Centre.

*Developing a life-long passion for health, fitness, dance, P.E and music*

# The Dinky Dancers' Programme:



## What do we offer?

Dinky Dancers' classes provide a fabulous dance, movement, action, P.E, music and singing experience, developing every child physically, musically and socially. A combination of warm up activities, character dances, themed movement training, action songs, instruments and P.E games, using multi-sensory equipment, encourage children to have fun with physical activity. Beanbags, balls, feathers, hoops, ribbons, parachute and imagination, develop children's physical skill.

Our programme has been developed to enhance and support the six areas *Learning and Development* within the **Early Years Foundation Stage**. We recognise and differentiate between varied stages of ability within our programme and allow for individual progression. Our teachers aim to provide a safe, friendly and supportive environment in which the children can contribute verbally, physically, emotionally and socially at their own pace.

## Who offers the classes?

Highly trained leaders will guide children through fun, progressive, themed classes, which are supported each half term by a series of certificates outlining the adventure each child has experienced class.

## What do our classes provide?

Dinky Dancers provides children with stepping-stones to creative and physical development nurturing a passion for physical activity and healthy living.

Our programme is recommended by Early Years advisers, health visitors, musicians, dancers and sports professionals, as a great way of introducing children to a lifelong enjoyment of creative and physical activity.

Our success is built upon our programme written by specialists who understand pre-school children, creative movement, physical education and music.

The essential ingredients of highly trained Dinky Dancers staff coupled with the unique, exciting programme make Dinky Dancers a truly magical place to be.

Our classes are hugely popular, they are fun, they are different and they sparkle. Children start a new physical journey each week, led by teachers who really love what they do and who want to inspire the children in their classes.

'We are very pleased to be able to offer Dinky Dancers in all it's forms and extremely proud that it is a valuable addition to children's daily lives.' **Lorry Slater – Founder of Dinky Dancers**

## Testimonials

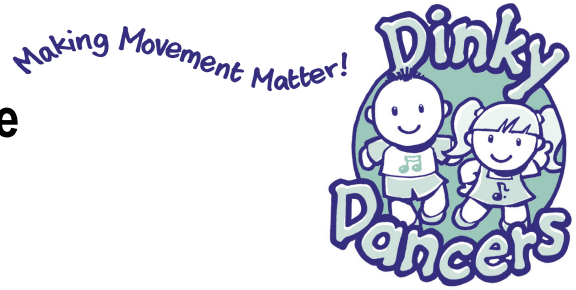
The classes combine all the elements of physical activity, social interaction, positive learning, creativity and imagination that help foster a healthy child but most of all they are fun. Well Done Dinky Dancers!

**Dr Amanda Gummer (Fundamentals) - Specialist in Child Development and Family Dynamics.**

Energy, enthusiasm and all round fantastic classes. Both my children really enjoyed Dinky Dancers and they are a great mix of well-planned, themed physical classes. I don't think there is anything else quite like Dinky Dancers.

**Sue Archer – Children's Services Consultant and Dinky Dancers' Mum.**

# Dinky Dancers *Independent* Pre-School and Nursery Programme



**'Inspiring children to be creative whilst developing a passion for physical activity, music and dance'**

Dinky Dancers *Independent* has been developed for children aged two to five years old, in Pre-schools, Nurseries, Children's Centres, Health Clubs, Schools and Sports Facilities.

**Children can join our exciting classes whilst adults work, relax or exercise, confident in the knowledge that their children are enjoying a weekly, structured, physical and equally importantly, a fun creative programme.**

Dinky Dancers Independent provides a fabulous dance, movement, action, music and singing experience, developing every child physically, musically and socially.

**Dinky Dancers Independent sessions move through a child friendly structure each week encouraging creative development through a range of teacher led games, dance, music, P.E activities and play.**

Our success is built upon our programme, which has been written by specialists who understand pre-school children, creative movement, physical education and music and which compliments The Early Years Foundation Stage Guidance documentation.

**The essential ingredients of highly trained Dinky Dancers' staff, coupled with the unique and exciting programme make Dinky Dancers a truly magical place to be.**

**Dinky Dancers Independent was created because we know and understand its value to the emotional, creative and physical growth of young children.**

Our classes are hugely popular, they are fun, they are different and they sparkle! The children start a new adventure each week, led by teachers who really love what they do and who want to inspire. A range of activities and equipment are utilised to comprehensively explore half termly themes, providing both variety and repetition that all children love.

**A combination of warm up activities, character dances, themed movement training, action songs, instruments and P.E games, using multi sensory equipment, encourage children to have fun with physical activity.**

Bean bags, balls, feathers, ribbons, hoops, parachute and imagination, develop children's physical skills.

**Pre-school concepts such as Amazing Animals, Nimble Numbers, Wonderful Weather, and Boogie Bodies are teamed with much-loved characters including: Tweenies, Postman Pat, Balamory and Winnie the Pooh creating exciting, lively and imaginative classes.**

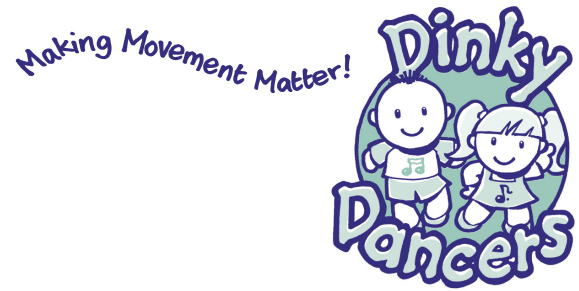
## **How will parents know what their child does at Dinky Dancers?**

At Dinky Dancers we understand the importance of celebrating achievement.

**All children enrolled on the Dinky Dancers' Programme are eligible to receive a certificate at the end of each half term, to acknowledge participation and progress through the Dinky Dancers' Curriculum.**

The award scheme consists of twelve themed certificates, that children enjoy collecting, to take home to share with family and friends.

# Organisational Expectations and Requirements:



- Dinky Dancers classes will be planned and presented by Dinky Dancers' staff.
- The two year, 'rolling' programme will delivered to children by trained Dinky Dancers' leaders whose performance will be monitored and assessed by the Dinky Dancers' management team.
- Sessions are normally for one hour, usually divided into two, thirty-minute classes in order to accommodate the maximum number of children as cost effectively as possible for the centre.
- Dinky Dancers offers a flexible approach to meet specific requirements of individual Children's Centres. Normally a centre will operate Dinky Dancers' classes once or twice a week, as demand requires.
- The maximum number of children in each class is normally twelve, however this is dependant on the space available and the individual circumstances of each setting.
- The space where children are to take part in Dinky Dancers' classes must be safe and clear.
- Dinky Dancers will provide all schemes of work, lesson plans, staff liaison and highly skilled and experienced class leaders.
- Dinky Dancers is fully insured with Public Liability Insurance.
- Dinky Dancers is always available for discussion and support throughout the year.

# Pre-school and Nursery Programme

Making Movement Matter!



## Frequently asked questions

### ***We already run music and dance sessions. How are you different?***

We are not only a music company, we are not just a dance company, we are not purely P.E specialists, we are a true and unique mix. This does not compromise quality of any of the elements because as a multi-disciplinary team we have worked together to produce an outstanding programme that responds to The Early Years and Foundation Stage requirements and we are committed to developing our programme as childcare 'needs' and Government guidelines change. We also offer the opportunity for children to consolidate and extend many of the themes explored in your own sessions, through our curriculum based, specialist activities, which develop children creatively, socially, physically and musically. Building these skills provides all our Dinky Dancers with a truly comprehensive and imaginative, creative experience which is second to none.

### ***How will our centre benefit from Dinky Dancers?***

Linking with the leading provider of this type of activity in Hertfordshire, Berkshire and Buckinghamshire ensures quality and experience that is second to none. Research shows that participation in creative movement and music at a young age develops the brain enhancing learning throughout the curriculum and the Dinky Dancers' programme will complement the centre's provision for children. Dinky Dancers also provides value added service to your Pre-school or Nursery. Our promise is to:

- Fulfil your centre's needs
- Fulfil the children's developmental needs
- Satisfy parents at the highest level

### ***What will it cost us?***

Dinky Dancers operates a variety of payment options, which enable all Pre-Schools and Nurseries to access to our Dance, P.E, Music and Action programme. Some settings decide to pay from their own budget, other ask that parents pay for part or the whole cost of the sessions. I am happy to send you a copy of our Cost and Payment Options and if the options don't meet with the needs of your centre, we will always be happy to discuss individual requirements.

### ***Do you have any information I can give to parents?***

Yes. If you decide to bring Dinky Dancers into your Pre-school or Nursery we will provide a range of posters, leaflets, booking forms including information for parents.

### ***How will the parents know what you are doing in class? (DD Independent programme only)***

Aside from speaking to their children about their day and the classes, we run a certificate scheme, which celebrates and acknowledges the children's achievement as they progress through the programme. Based on each half term's theme, they are a wonderful record for the children and parents alike. There are 12 to collect in total over a two-year period!

### ***What age groups do you teach?***

Our classes are designed for children aged rising 2-5 years and our class activities have been developed to match the learning goals and skill ability of the children in this age range. Our teachers are able to differentiate lesson material to suit individual children within a group setting.

### ***We don't have any money in our budget to pay for external classes?***

One of our payment options is for parents to pay for the cost of the classes. If you feel this might be a possibility then I would be happy to send you a copy of our Cost and Payment Options.

**For further information about what  
Dinky Dancers  
can offer your Pre-school or Nursery,  
or to arrange a demonstration class  
contact us now!**

Helen Thomas

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