



Starting 1 October, the Formentera Municipal School of Music will offer dance studies in addition to existing courses on offer. The news was reported today in press conference when Formentera's councilor of Education and Culture, Sònia Cardona, appeared together with the director of the municipal music school and Conservatory of Music, Ivan Mérgola.

The new courses of study will be designed both for children and adults and will include official and unofficial modules. Included among the official modules – for which official state recognition will be requested beginning next year – are classical and Spanish dance, and unofficial modules will include corporal expression; introduction to dance; modern, classical, creative, Spanish and Sevillian dance; Latin dancing; ballroom dancing; therapeutic dance and choreography workshops.

The goal is provide a base from which children may pursue professional dance study in the future, in addition to simply satisfying curiosity with unofficial studies for adult students.

The number of courses on offer will depend on the number of registrations, a minimum number of students being required to initiate a course. From 17 to 30 September, interested individuals

can pre-register at the Office of Citizen Affairs, and the final programme will be decided according to pre-registration numbers.

Facilities at the conservatory and municipal music school – currently under remodel to include a space of 30 m<sup>2</sup> – will be used for the new classes. Also forthcoming are changing areas equipped with showers, a requirement at centres of official dance studies.

Since opening 14 years ago, the Formentera School of Music has become a major player in boosting social cohesion and community dialogue on the island, moreover acting as an important source of community events. Its reception on Formentera has been notable, and it has made different courses of study a possibility for approximately 150 students of music. The incorporation of dance studies into the school's catalogue of courses had been requested for years before finally becoming a reality in 2013. With the change comes a guarantee of quality and professionalism to dance studies here in Formentera.

The Office of Education, Culture and Local Patrimony take great satisfaction in being able to make the Formentera School of Dance a reality. A milestone thanks in no small part to the efforts of the personnel of the School of Music.