

The Chichester City Arts Centre

The Chichester City Arts Centre, Mount Lane, Chichester, PO19 3DQ, is an arts and community hire venue close to the city centre. Set in the former church of St Bartholomew's, a 200 year old late Georgian grade II listed building, the Centre has a Main Hall, a Reception area in the old Vestry, a disabled toilet, a small kitchen and a shower/toilet. Upstairs there is a small gallery complete with the original church organ.

The Centre is also the home of the Rosemary Bell Academy of Dance, a Royal Academy of Dance registered ballet school.

Outside, there is disabled parking, a level lawn area surrounded by trees and shrubs (formerly the churchyard) and an enclosed rear area also part of the churchyard. (There have been no burials since 1860 and all headstones have been placed against boundary walls.)

Basic Information

The Main Hall is approx. 42' x 28' (13m x 8.5m). It is accessed for regular bookings via the original oak Reception door to the LHS of the building. This is a pleasant waiting area with casual seating, an original fireplace and the Reception counter where light refreshments may be served. The Main Hall is through a further original oak door. There is an office/store at the east end of the Hall and small gallery at the west end.

For special events, guests can enter through the Main Doors at the west end of the building through the tiled entrance lobby past the kitchen and disabled facilities and enter the Main Hall through a further set of double doors. The church was built in 1832 and extended in 1930 by the distinguished graphic artist, MacDonald Gill, who painted the unique barrelled ceiling above the Office.

The building has been extensively refurbished in 2022 to provide modern disabled and fire safety facilities with disabled parking at the front of the building off Mount Lane.

The Centre is owned and operated by a Limited Liability Partnership whose members are Miss Rosemary Bell, Principal of the Rosemary Bell Academy of Dance and Mr & Mrs IT & JM Jackson.

Overall Capacity

The overall capacity of the Main Hall is 120 people.

Suitable For

This venue is suitable for the following occasions.

- Party
- Anniversary
- Children's Party
- Societies and Clubs
- Theatre Productions
- Baby Groups
- Reunions
- Training
- Local Community Meetings
- Musical Events
- Band Practise
- Fitness Classes / Yoga

- Educational Pursuits
- School Events
- Film Shoots
- Dance Classes
- Church Event / Choir Practice
- Dog Training
- Corporate Events

Facilities

- Main Hall
- Kitchen
- Baby Changing Facilities
- Wheelchair Access
- Wifi
- Mirrored Hall with Barres for Dance
- Entrance
- Accessible Toilets
- Shower
- Broadband Internet
- Outside Spaces

Equipment

- Urn
- Kettle
- Microwave
- Fridge
- Washing Machine
- Dishwasher

There are 7 rectangular folding tables and 60 folding wooden chairs available to Hirers.

Availability: The Ballet school operates most days of the week between 0800 to 2200. The Centre may be hired between 0800 to 2200 Monday to Saturday and up to 2030 on Sundays and Bank Holidays.

Wi-Fi: Our wi-fi is “CCAC Guest”, password “CCAC2023”.

Hire Costs: Our hire charge is currently £22 per hour. Further details may be found in our Pricing Policy document.

In addition, all bookings attract a refundable cleaning and damage deposit. This deposit is £30 for bookings of half a day (5 hours or less) and £100 for full days (5 hours or more).

The hourly rate in future years may be subject to change without notice. Bookings involving large numbers of people at the venue will be quoted on request. See our Pricing Policy at the Documentation tab for full details.

ITJ

1 Jun 2026