

GCSE Dance

Examination Board: AQA

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Why study Dance?

Dance is a powerful and expressive subject which encourages you to develop your creative, physical, emotional, and intellectual capacity.

Studying Dance is a holistic journey that goes beyond creative expression. It boosts confidence, hones problem-solving skills, and nurtures creativity. You will be encouraged to make informed decisions, providing invaluable skills applicable to any career path.

The study of professional works develops your ability to critically appraise dances of different styles and cultural influences.

Studying Dance also promotes fitness, a healthy lifestyle, team working and creativity.

Possible next steps (including careers)

The skills gained by studying Dance, can be a great basis for any career.

In addition, you could go into the following professions:

- Advertising
- Teaching
- Choreographing
- Film industry
- Events planning
- Personal Training

Aptitudes needed

You will need to be interested in dance and choreographing. Ability to keep to deadlines.

Previous dance experience is not a necessity, but you do need to be able to express oneself through dance and feel comfortable with performing a solo as well as in a group.

Topic Structure

Year 10

- Develop an understanding of health, fitness & safe working practice.
- Develop physical & technical skills necessary for effective performance.
- Learn 'set dances' that every GCSE Dance student must learn to perform both a solo and a duet/trio piece of coursework.
- Begin studying the 'Dance Anthology' which focuses on 6 professional dance works.

Year 11

- Develop expressive skills & an understanding of how to achieve high quality performance.
- Enhance your understanding of the relationship between choreography, performance & production.
- Develop your understanding and critical analysis of the 6 professional works.
- Create your own solo or group choreography in response to an exam question provided by AQA

Assessment Structure (Students must complete both assessment component).

Unit 1: Internally marked and externally moderated.

Performance – 30% of GCSE / 40 marks

- Set phrases through a solo performance (approximately 1 minute in duration)
- Duet/trio performance (3 minutes in a dance that is a maximum of 5 minutes in duration)

Choreography – 30% of GCSE / 40 marks

Solo or group choreography – solo (2 - 2½ minutes) /
group dance (3 - 3½ minutes)

Unit 2: Externally marked by AQA.

Dance Appreciation – 40% of GCSE (1½ hour written paper / 80 marks)

- Knowledge and understanding of choreographic processes and performing skills.
- Critical appreciation of own work
- Critical appreciation of 6 professional works