

Introduction to GCSE Dance

The GCSE Dance options will give you the opportunity to develop knowledge and technical skills in performing, reflection, choreography, physical, technical and expressive skills. As well as, critically appreciating own work and professional work, through making analytical, interpretative and evaluative judgements.



Do I have to perform?

Yes, a requirement of the course is to perform in front of an audience. To pass you must perform. There are lots of opportunities to perform in front of peers and a wider audience.



Do I have to perform a solo?

Yes, two of the exams are solos which are approx. 30 seconds long. This will be performed in front of your teacher for your assessment. But do not worry, as we will do lots of work on building your confidence to do this.

Is there written work?

Yes. This course requires you to complete a written exam so theory lessons are a big part of the course.



Is there a sit down exam?

Yes, there is a 1 hour and 40 minute exam which is 40% of your final grade. Please see below for further information.

What is Component 3.1?

Component 3.1: Performance – worth 30% of final grade.

You must develop and apply knowledge, understanding and skills to perform dance as a soloist for approximately 1 minute and in a duet/trio for a minimum of three minutes.

You will develop and apply knowledge and understanding of performance skills and safe dance practices. You will also be required to demonstrate your knowledge and understanding of performance skills by responding to questions in the critical appreciation written exam.



What is Component 3.2?

Component 3.2: Choreography - worth 30% of final grade.

You must learn how to respond creatively to an externally set stimulus, to choreograph your own complete dance. The dance created must be either a solo dance of a minimum of 2 minutes or a group dance of a minimum of 3 minutes. To create your own dance you will be able to understand and apply a range of choreographic skills. You will also be required to demonstrate your knowledge and understanding of choreographic skills by responding to questions in the critical appreciation written exam.

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What is Component 3.3?

Component 3.3: Dance Appreciation - worth 40% of final grade.

You must learn how to respond creatively to an externally set stimulus, to choreograph your own complete dance. The dance created must be either a solo dance of a minimum of 2 minutes or a group dance of a minimum of 3 minutes. To create your own dance, you will be able to understand and apply a range of choreographic skills. You will also be required to demonstrate your knowledge and understanding of choreographic skills by responding to questions in the critical appreciation written exam.



Do I need to be involved in Dance outside of school?

No, as long as you have a love for the subject and are willing to work hard, we can work with you to develop your performance and technical skills. There are also lots of after school clubs/activities that are available to you, which we would highly recommend you attend. You may wish to join the school show or other activities to experience more performance opportunities. There are also plenty of performance opportunities with external groups in the local area.



What will I learn?

You will learn the skills and techniques, styles as well as knowledge of professional work. You will also learn the value of oracy and group work when developing performance, along with a range of transferable skills.

Do I get to create my own work?

Yes! Throughout the course there will be multiple opportunities to create your own work in response to a task.

What transferable skills will I learn?

The GCSE Dance course caters towards further study in the performing arts. However, there are many transferable skills that you may learn throughout the course intended for another career, such as; creativity, planning, applying, consideration, collaboration, interpretation and resilience.



Who will be my teacher?

You will either have Mrs Spencer or Miss Ryley Maddock. You are very lucky to have teachers who have specifically trained in Dance and Performing Arts and are specialists in the subject. Both who have a wealth of knowledge and experience in the performing arts industry