

DANCE

Examination Board: AQA

Why study Dance?

An A Level in Dance will give you opportunity to further explore previously learned choreography and performance skills. You will explore the physical and technical skills that underpin the styles of contemporary, jazz, ballet and musical theatre and investigate a range of practitioners and their professional works.

Where does it lead?

A Level Dance will give you an opportunity to continue with dance performance and choreography at university, dance schools and companies. You may wish to pursue a career within the performing arts industry itself in a performance or technical role or explore the world of teaching dance.

A Level Dance allows you the opportunity to gain transferable skills that you can take onto other career paths if you do not wish to go down the performing arts route. You will gain confidence, improve your communication and team-building skills as well as being encouraged to have your own opinion. You will have the opportunity to improve your analysis, evaluative and interpretative skills which can be taken into many career paths.



Course Content

The course is split into two components – a practical component and a theoretical component.

Component 1 is the practical element consisting of the choreography and performance of a solo piece in the style of a specified practitioner. There is also a performance within a quartet and a group choreography based on a given stimulus.

Component 2 provides students with the opportunity to unpick the works of two set pieces, Christopher Bruce's 'Rooster' and Sidi Larbi Cherkaoui's 'Sutra'. Here you will develop your knowledge and understanding, developing a critical appreciation of the selected works.

Throughout the course there will be theatre trips to see professional works which will allow students to experience live performance and enhance their knowledge of particular choreographers. There will also be opportunities to showcase work in annual shows, local competitions and festivals.

Course Assessment

- **Component 1, the practical element, 50% of the final grade.** The pieces are performed in front of a moderator in the Spring of the second year.
- **Component 2, the theory element, 50% (100 marks) of the final grade.** This 2.5 hour paper is in two sections:
 - **Section A** includes short answers based on 'Rooster' (25 marks) and an essay based on 'Rambert Dance Company' (25 marks)
 - **Section B** has two essay questions based on 'Sutra' (25marks) and 'Independent Contemporary Dance Scene' (25 marks).

**For further information,
please contact Miss Birchall**