

# Dance

## What is this course about?

The new Dance GCSE course focuses on practical skills in preparation for choreography, technique and performance and develops a critical appreciation of dance in its physical, artistic, aesthetic and cultural contexts. It is a physically demanding course that requires commitment and full attendance.

## What skills will students gain?

GCSE Dance promotes fitness, a healthy lifestyle, team working and creativity, actively engaging students in the process of dance in order to develop as effective and independent learners and as critical and reflective thinkers with enquiring minds. The ability to review and analyse professional dance works and practical work in the studio will be developed throughout the course

## What skills are needed?

There will be a need for independent work and group work therefore reliability is essential. The course requires a genuine interest in all aspects of dance and performance, and an ability to work individually and as part of a team. Students will be required to attend productions, meet deadlines and take control of their own rehearsal schedule which will include an extensive amount of independent time in the studio.

## How is this course assessed?

### Component 1: Performance and Choreography

Performance will be assessed in the following tasks:

- Set phrases through a solo performance (approximately one minute in duration)
- Duet/trio performance (three and a half minutes in duration)

Choreography will be assessed in the following task:

- Solo or group choreography – a solo (two to two and a half minutes) or a group dance for two to five dancers (three to three and a half minutes)

These assessments are internally marked by your dance teacher and externally moderated by AQA. For performance there is a total of 40 marks available (15 marks for set phrases and 25 marks for duet/trio – 30% of your GCSE) and for choreography there is a total of 40 marks available (30% of your GCSE).

### Component 2: Dance Appreciation

**What's assessed?** Your knowledge and understanding of choreographic processes and performing skills, the critical appreciation of your own work and the critical appreciation of professional works. The written paper is 1 hour and 30 minutes and there is a total of 80 marks available (40% of your GCSE)

**Qualification Received:** GCSE

**Grade Range:** 9 - 1

## What career or further education opportunities does this course lead to?

A GCSE in Dance provides a solid foundation for further studies in dance or performing arts, including A-level Dance. It will help students pursue their education or a career in many creative fields and is excellent preparation for any course requiring good communication and group work skills. In addition to performing, choreographing and teaching, this course might lead to such diverse careers as dance therapy or journalism. Employers value creativity and personality as they offer their company skills in inventive thinking and problem solving. The creative industries employ over 1.5 million people and the sector continues to grow.