

DANCE

Drama is one of the Performing Arts subjects. In the first three years, students study a combination of Drama, Dance and Music on a carousel, spending four weeks on each discipline. They will have around 30 lessons of each subject throughout the year. There are also a variety of extra-curricular activities within Performing Arts including: Drama Club, Drama productions, Rock School, instrumental lessons, Dance Club, trips to see performances and in-school workshops by professional companies

What will be studied in Year 7

Rotation 1

Phrases and Devices – Students will learn and create phrases of movement focused around the basic strands of dance.

Rotation 2

Musical Theatre – The aim of this unit is to focus upon the use of performance skills and create a dance that has a narrative.

Rotation 3

Dance around the World – This unit allows students to explore a variety of dance styles from around the world.

Overview of Year 8

In Year 8, students continue to be provided with the opportunity to compose, perform and appreciate dance from different cultures. The three units studied within Year 8 explore the following styles of dance: Rock 'n' Roll, Bollywood and Urban dance.

Overview of Year 9

At the start of the academic year, students explore dance from different decades and considered how dance has evolved. As they move forwards into the Spring term, they study contemporary movement. These lessons focus on developing the skills that form the basis for the GCSE dance course, including technical, performance, analysis and compositional skills.

DANCE – GCSE

Examination Board

AQA GCSE Dance (8236)

The specification for Dance allows students to develop their performance, choreographic and appreciation skills. Most lessons are practical in nature, but one hour per fortnight will be spent on understanding the theoretical elements of the course.

Assessment

Unit One - Critical Appreciation of Dance – 40% Written Paper – 1 hour 30 minutes

There will be questions about six professional dance works chosen from the anthology.

There will also be questions about choreographic and performance skills as well as students' reflections on their own work.

80 marks

Unit Two - Performance – 30%

Practical Examination via video recording.

Performance Solo - You will perform two set phrases. These phrases are choreographed by the exam board. Both phrases last between 1 -1 ½ minutes and are performed to a metronome beat. The purpose of the set phrases is to assess technical accuracy and physical skills.

Performance Piece - Your teacher will choreograph this with you. It will be performed as a duet or trio. The performance piece assess expressive skills.

40 marks

Unit Three - Choreography – 30%

Practical Examination via video recording.

Choreography - You can choose to create either a group choreography or a solo based on one of the five stimuli given by the exam board.

You will be assessed on your ability to select action, space and dynamics. You will also be marked on how you structure your dance and for your choice in accompaniment. You will be able to write a programme note that explains to the examiner your choices and how they relate to your theme.

40 marks.

Further information from Mrs K Lin