

Syllabus: AQA GCSE DANCE 8236

Please consult: Miss S Brain

What we aim to do

Dance is a powerful and expressive subject which encourages students to develop their creative, physical, emotional and intellectual capacity, whatever their previous experience in the subject. This specification recognises the role of dance in young people's lives and students will study a range of dance styles and style fusions. Apart from the solo performance, they can choose any style in which to perform and choreograph, providing it meets the assessment criteria. The study of the anthology of professional works will develop their ability to critically appraise professional dance works and provide a springboard for engaging in practical tasks.

What we study

This course is made up of two parts.

Practical Component

The practical component is divided into two elements, performance and choreography

Performance

- Set phrases through a solo performance (approximately one minute in duration)
- Duet/trio performance (three minutes in a dance which is a maximum of five minutes in duration)
- This equates to 30% of the overall course mark

Choreography

- 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)
- This equates to 30% of the overall course mark

Theoretical Component

During classroom lessons you will learn all about the body and how it responds to exercise. Topics covered are knowledge and understanding of choreographic processes and performing skills, critical appreciation of own work and critical appreciation of professional works. Questions are based on students' own practice in performance and choreography and the GCSE Dance anthology.

Skills needed

Participating in dance competitions both inside and outside school is a preferred (but not essential) requirement if you wish to participate in PE dance. Most important of all is that you enjoy dance as it is primarily practical.

How your work will be assessed

There is a performance component which accounts for 60% of the course and there is a theoretical component which accounts for 40% of the course. Knowledge will be tested in one 1hr 30 mins exam at the end of Year 11.

What this subject can lead to when you finish Year 11 at The Hollyfield School

A GCSE in Dance will give you the opportunity to continue your studies on to A-Level Dance, or to study a dance course at university.

Possible careers

You could choose to go straight into work within the performing arts industry as a dancer or teacher. Some other opportunities are to become an Arts administrator, Choreographer, Community arts worker, Dance movement psychotherapist, Personal trainer, Theatre director and many more.

Additional information/special requirements

Students must bring in a full clean GCSE PE kit and/or leggings for practical lessons. Ideally you should take part regularly in extra-curricular activities and should try to participate in dance classes outside school.

Relevant website links for further information on the course/subject

Specification: <https://www.aqa.org.uk/subjects/dance/gcse/dance-8236>

Careers: <https://www.prospects.ac.uk/careers-advice/what-can-i-do-with-my-degree/dance>

