



# Key Stage 3 – Years 7&8

## Dance

### Year 7 Outline

Unit 1: Introduction to dance – Learning the fundamentals of safe practice and choreographing motifs using chance dance, actions and space.

Unit 2: Survival – Learning and choreographing a selection of dances based on the theme of survival, utilising actions, dynamics and some spatial elements.

Unit 3: Refugee Crisis – Learning how to use RADS effectively to choreograph motifs which portrays different characters, narratives, emotions and moods.

### Year 8 Outline (topics covered)

Unit 1: Mad Hatter's Tea Party by Zonation – Learning how to respond to a stimulus and communicating the intent of mental health using the professional work Mad Hatter's Tea Party by Zonation.

Unit 2: Young Men by BalletBoyz – Learning how to use different choreographic approaches and devices in response to the professional work Young Men by BalletBoyz.

Unit 3: Frantic Assembly – Learning how to use props and explore different choreographic approaches in the style of Frantic Assembly.

### Group/Class structure

In Years 7 and 8, students are on a rotation with Drama therefore experience 3 units of dance with 1 hour lesson a week. As a compulsory subject, this aims to provide the whole school with a broad creative experience which some students may have never explored within KS2. Due to this rotation, there is a heavy focus on technical skills which are an important focus of the GCSE Dance course - Actions, Space, Dynamics and Relationships. Within Year 8, students explore technical skills further alongside choreographic devices and approaches. Towards the end of Year 8, students will then go through the options process to select the subject they are most passionate about.

## Teaching & Learning Style

Year 7 explore these skills in detail to choreograph their own motifs in groups to also build upon transferable skills. Alongside this, students also learn the basic routines of performance and appreciation by reflecting on their own and other's work. Year 7 explore these skills by analysing and responding to different types of stimuli which covers different dance styles, cultures and current affairs.

Year 8 begin to expand on these skills learnt in Year 7 by gaining knowledge and understanding of how to develop their work, using more complex stimuli, analysing professional works, choreographic devices, deeper reflection on practical skills and choreographic processes and approaches.

## Assesment

Informal assessments are conducted throughout the half term with a formal practical assessment which takes place at the end of the unit. These assessments are based on the focus on the three core areas of the exam syllabus; choreography, performance and appreciation.

Students will gain the skills necessary to become independent thinkers, problem solvers, presenters, and collaborators whilst developing resilience, communication and confidence. This will be assessed through informal and formal assessments:

- Peer and self-assessment by watching own performances through videoing class work
- Performance in front of an audience and evaluative/self-reflection through the use of learner booklets to track own development through assessment.
- Students complete WWW and EBI regularly to monitor and track their development.

## Opportunities beyond the classroom

We aim to provide a varied and inclusive learning experience, enabling aspiring dancers to develop their talents as well as challenging themselves to push boundaries. The dance department offers a wide range of internal and external opportunities such as:

- House Dance
- Dance clubs
- Dance showcases/shows
- Expressive Art showcases/shows
- Workshops
- Trips