

Exam Board: AQA
Specification: [Click here for more information](#)

DANCE



COURSE SUMMARY

The course aims to produce creative, thinking dancers who are able to choreograph and perform a range of dance styles. You will have the opportunity to develop your physical skills to improve your all round performance and stage presence through a range of dance classes designed around you and your skills. You will also be able to analyse critically a range of dance styles, works and companies within their social and historical context to assist with your overall choreography and thinking skills. You study the Rambert Dance Company in depth and the American Musical Jazz scene through theory and practice.



WHY STUDY DANCE?

"The subject develops creativity, choreography techniques and helps with analytical skills, which is particularly useful when writing essays." Freya
The course allows you to work collaboratively with groups and individuals, building key employability skills. Dance allows students to think and express creatively and emotionally, developing verbal and non-verbal communication skills that can be transferred to other subject areas.

WHAT HAPPENS IN LESSONS?

A range of dance techniques are taught that link into students' practical assessments and theory lessons. Practising dance professionals are invited to teach to the students regularly.
"Students study a range of different professional works in depth. Key features of the dances and contexts of the choreographers, and their techniques, are also taught. Students are fully involved in class discussions which help us understand the topics. Taking dance encourages creativity and students need to be prepared to be pushed outside their comfort zone and think outside the box. A variety of professional performances are arranged to assist students in their academic studies." Freya

COURSE ASSESSMENT

This is a linear course. This means that students opting for an A Level in this subject will be committing to a two-year linear course, with all units examined at the end of Year 13.
Opportunities are provided for frequent assessment of students' practical and theoretical work so ample feedback is available to improve overall marks and grades. Examinations, both practical and written, are taken at the end of the course.

MIGHT LEAD TO...

Any higher education or apprenticeship that is linked to a creative subject would link with A Level Dance. Students wanting to explore the option of make-up, textiles or stage design would have an advantage studying dance.

The avenues of dancer, choreographer, reviewer, lighting designer, photographer and other associated professions would link with this course exceptionally well. Employers and educational institutions are frequently looking for applicants who have studied a creative subject.

"When I leave school I hope to continue learning dance or musical theatre. I have studied Dance, English Literature, English Language and Religious Studies." Freya

ADVICE ON ENTRY

Good written communication skills are required to complete this subject to a high level. Experience of performing to an audience as well as some choreography skills are also advantageous. Dance GCSE is not a requirement but for those students who have completed the GCSE course, a Grade 5 or higher is preferred.

READING AROUND THE SUBJECT

- [Gene Kelly](#)
- [Bob Fosse](#)
- [Jerome Robbins](#)
- [Robert North](#)
- [Rambert](#)
- [Richard Alston](#)
- [Christopher Bruce](#)