



Time, Equipment and Expenses:

There is usually one dance trip / workshop per year priced at approximately £25. There is also the opportunity for students to purchase a dance kit which is not compulsory and there may be the occasional costume accessory or item to purchase for performances.

Homework often requires students to rehearse practical work and to research and answer questions based on theoretical aspects of the course.

Near to examinations periods, additional rehearsals at lunch and afterschool will be required.

For more information please speak to your Dance Teacher.

GCSE DANCE (Code: Dc)

Exam Board: AQA 4231

Dance is a course combining aspects of performance, composition and appreciation. The syllabus which is 80% practical aims to encourage self-confidence, develop creative thought and acquire technical skills in order to effectively communicate dance concepts. The specification:

UNIT 1 – Written Paper. Externally Assessed – 20% of total marks. Candidates answer questions on two professional dance works, chosen from a list prescribed by AQA.

UNIT 2 Set Dance : Externally Assessed Practical examination - 20% of total marks. Candidates perform a solo dance of approx 1 to 1 ½ mins.

UNIT 3 Performance in a duo/trio: Practical Controlled Assessment - 20% of total marks. Candidates perform in a dance for 2, 3, 4 or 5 dancers lasting 3 to 3 ½ minutes. Dance must be linked to a professional work from prescribed list. Recommended time is 15hours.

UNIT 4 Choreography : Controlled Assessment Practical - 40% of total marks. Solo Composition task – 15% . Each candidate selects three motifs from one professional work and develops them into a dance of 1 to 1 ½ minutes. Recommended time is 11-12 hours and is completed in Year 10. Choreography – 25%. Each candidate choreographs either a solo OR group dance in response to an outline stimulus. Recommended time is 24-25 hours.

Why choose GCSE Dance?

- promotes fitness, a healthy lifestyle, team working and creativity
- actively engages students in the process of dance in order to develop as effective and independent learners and as critical and reflective thinkers with enquiring minds
- develops students' skills, knowledge and understanding of a range of dance styles
- develops physical, technical and expressive skills through which students are able to communicate choreographic intention and develop their individual qualities as performers
- develops students' skills, knowledge and understanding of choreography through which they are able to communicate ideas, thoughts and meaning drawn from a range of dance styles
- develops a critical appreciation of dance in its physical, artistic, aesthetic and cultural contexts
- provides progression from Key Stage 3 and a solid foundation for further studies/career in Dance or Performing Arts.
- develops 'the whole person' and transferable skills needed for any university course.

Beyond the curriculum:-

Students who decide to take the course should be attending private dance classes outside of school or a school club. It is expected that pupils studying Dance at GCSE will play an active part in the 'dance life' at Borlase; they must have a keen interest in the subject and be willing to trying new styles, attend theatre trips, participate of project work/competitions, shows and work with professional visiting artists. They are also encouraged to lead dance by Year 11. All exciting opportunities!

