

A Level Dance



**Yr11 - Yr12
Transition
Activities**

Welcome to A Level Dance

Before you start the course in September we would like you to complete this booklet in as much detail as possible. Some of the tasks are research based and require reading and selecting information, others are more specific and require you to create timelines and smart targets. We would like you to bring all your completed work to your first A Level lesson in September. You will also be tested on what you have learnt in the first half term.

Name:

Which school did you attend to sit your GCSE's/BTEC?

Did you do GCSE Dance?

Do you currently or have you studied Dance outside of school? (e.g. Ballet, Modern, Tap etc)

What are your strengths? (this could include dance specific information, e.g. a particular style or performing or it could be more general, e.g. essay writing or organisation)

What are your weaknesses?

What are you most looking forward to in the A Level Dance course?

Is there anything that you're not looking forward to or worried about within the A Level Dance course?

Set yourself three targets to try and achieve between September and December (these targets should be Dance specific)

Target one:

Target two:

Target three:

The A Level Dance course at a glimpse

Component 1: Performance and choreography	+	Component 2: Critical engagement
What's assessed <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Solo performance linked to a specified practitioner within an area of study • Performance in a quartet • Group choreography 		What's assessed <p>Knowledge, understanding and critical appreciation of two set works.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • One compulsory set work within the compulsory area of study • One optional set work within the corresponding area of study, from a choice of four.
How it's assessed <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Practical exam • 80 marks • 50% of A-level <p>Non-examination assessment (NEA) marked by an external assessor from AQA during a visit to your centre. Visits will normally take place between March and May.</p> <p>Externally set tasks are distributed by 15 September in the academic year of certification.</p>		How it's assessed <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Written exam: 2 hours 30 minutes • 100 marks • 50% of A-level
		Questions <p>Two sections:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Section A: short answer questions (25 marks) and one essay question (25 marks) on the compulsory set work/area of study. • Section B: two essay questions on the second set work/area of study (25 marks for each essay).

More information about the course can be found on the AQA website:

<http://filestore.aqa.org.uk/resources/dance/specifications/AQA-7237-SP-2016.PDF>

A Level Dance provides students with the opportunity to gain experience of performance and choreography and to develop critical thinking about Dance.

A Level Dance helps students to:

- Think critically about Dance as an art form
- Develop their knowledge for the study of Dance in higher education
 - Experience performance and choreography through practice
 - Lead a healthy lifestyle

The practical elements amount to 50% of the full qualification.

This course is particularly suitable for students who have studied GCSE/BTEC Dance and wish to study dance at a higher level.

The content allows students to study a subject which can be extended through higher education and promotes a healthy lifestyle through an awareness of the importance of exercise and training.

For one of the theoretical elements of the course you will be required to study the following areas...

Compulsory Set work: *Rooster* (1991) by Christopher Bruce
Compulsory Area of Study: Rambert Dance Company (formally Ballet Rambert) 1966-2002

You are expected to complete the following tasks and bring them back into your first lesson in September. You must complete all of the numbered tasks. The extension tasks are optional

Task 1: Create a biography of **Christopher Bruce's** life and try to include the following information:

- A photograph
- Childhood
- Dance training
- Career
- Stylistic features
- Awards

Extension task: Can you find some of Christopher Bruce's other dance works? Briefly describe the similarities and differences.

Task 2: Research ***Rooster*** (1991) by **Christopher Bruce**. Try and find information on the following:

- Stylistic features of the movement
- Physical setting
- Aural setting
- Costume

Extension task: What is the piece about?

Task 3: Create a timeline of the significant events in the history of **Rambert Dance Company**, start at 1966 and finish at 2002. What changed in the company?

Extension task: Try to think about what impact these events had on the company and add this to your timeline in different colour

For the second theoretical element of the course you will be required to study the following areas...

Set work: *Sutra* (2008) by Sidi Larbi Cherkaoui
Area of Study: Independent Contemporary Dance scene in Britain 2000-present day

Task 1: Complete comprehensive biographies on the following dance practitioners:

- Sidi Larbi Cherkaoui
- Matthew Bourne
- Akram Khan

Please include images, their training, their movement style and choreographic style. Also make sure that you watch some video clips of each.

Task 2: Watch interviews and clips of *Sutra* (2008) by Sidi Larbi Cherkaoui

You will have a basic quiz to test your knowledge - (within the first 3 weeks of term)

- Plot
- Characters
- Props
- Set

Extension task: Complete wider reading on the independent contemporary dance scene in Britain 2000-present day. You could research or have a look for any work by the following dance practitioners:

- Shobana Jeyasingh
- Jasmin Vardimon
- Hofesh Shecter