



# GCSE Dance





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



# + Why study dance?

You may not want to pursue a career in dance, so why study it at GCSE?

- **Because you enjoy it** – you should have enjoyment in your GCSE studies
- **Because you are good at it** - never underestimate skills in a practical subject, good grades are good grades regardless of the subject
- **Because you do not want to do all subjects that rely so heavily on an end examination** (written) Dance is one of the few subjects that still has practical work and is not just all examined at the end of the course.
- **Employers and universities like individuals who show commitment, creativity and strong skills in group work** – all apparent through dance GCSE
- **To keep your mind and body active, artistic and creative** – four out of six of your lessons each fortnight will be practical lessons.



# + Why study dance?

If you want to be a dancer, actor or performer then Dance GCSE is obviously a great subject for you to study .... BUT did you know that studying dance can open the doors to **MANY** different career paths.



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# Component 1 – Performance and Choreography

## PERFORMANCE

- Solo performance – 2 set phrases – From AQA
  - (1 minute each).
- Duet/trio performance – Created in collaboration with your teacher.

30%



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# Component 1 – Performance and Choreography

## CHOREOGRAPHY

- Solo or group choreography
  - a solo (2-2.5 mins)
  - group dance (3-3.5 mins) using 2-5 dancers

30%



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# Component 2 – Dance Appreciation

Written paper - worth 40%. Exam is 1hr 30 mins (80 marks)

You will be tested on 3 topics:

- Choreographic processes and performance skills.
- Critical appreciation of your own work.
- Critical appreciation of professional works.

40%





# The Anthology of Professional Works



You will study 6 different British works that include:

- different dance styles and fusions of style
- a selection of established and emerging choreographers
- a variety of types of performance environment
- inclusive dance
- dance influenced by other cultures.

<https://www.aqa.org.uk/resources/dance/gcse/dance/teach/dance-anthology>





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# Students who have studied GCSE Dance

Statements by year 12 & 13 students that studied GCSE Dance at Tolworth Girls' School.....





“What I enjoyed most about GCSE dance was the ability to create my own choreography and perform it in the GCSE dance show.

I took the course as I wanted to further my love of dance, both practically and theoretically. I now study A Level Dance, and I have applied to university to study a degree in Musical Theatre. Both GCSE and A- Level Dance have been essential for my chosen career path”

### **Francesca Tynan – Year 13**

“I liked the variety of the GCSE Dance course, the practical and theory elements. Most of all I enjoyed the opportunity to choreograph and perform. The theory has helped me a lot with my dance terminology and analysis. I want to have pursue a career in dance, which is why I study it at A level”

### **Vanesa Petrova – Year 13**




“I took the course to increase my confidence in dance and the fact I love dance and I know the course offered me opportunities to dance within school. I enjoyed creating my own choreography and the experience of learning what goes into a dance, for example the lighting , set and costume. I now study dance at A Level and in the future would like to train to become a dance teacher”

### **Charlotte Weller – Year 12**

“I took GCSE Dance because I simply love dancing, it is such an interesting subject at Tolworth. Some of my best memories and experiences at school are from dance lessons and taking part in the dance shows. I really enjoyed creating my own choreography, as I had not had the opportunity to do anything like it before, getting to choose dancers, music, and a narrative, then creating a piece myself. I also really loved looking at the different works we wrote about in the exam, and analysing how dance can communicate so many different things to the audience. After my A-Levels I hope to go on to university, and study musical theatre or drama”

### **Kitty Green – Year 12**



“I chose GCSE dance, to help boost my confidence and also because I love to dance! Dance has helped me learn so many new skills in life, such as confidence, time management and self-discipline. I really enjoyed choreographing my own dance, and seeing it all come together. I also enjoyed appreciating and analysing the six professional set works. Although I am not planning on studying dance at degree level, all of the skills that I have gained will help me a great deal in a media course at university”

### **Emily Imessaoudene – Year 12**

“I chose GCSE dance because as someone who had never danced much before, it sounded really appealing and exciting. It seemed like a very creative and artistic subject which was different to all the other GCSE options. I thoroughly enjoyed the course as we studied professional dance works that included various dance styles e.g. hip hop, ballet, contemporary. I now study Alevel dance. In the future I want to study a course in PE and Dance”

### **Yea Jin Park – Year 12**



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