

Dance A-level AQA Exam Board



Why Study Dance?

Dance helps students develop a number of skills:

- Visual appreciation of dance and choreography
- Balanced judgement
- Information gathering and assessment
- Ability to work on your own or as part of a team
- Communication
- Project management
- Creative thinking and problem solving

Dance is a popular and highly regarded subject at St Wilfrids with an excellent reputation for progress and results at KS4. Furthermore, dance is an extremely popular extra curricular activity for all years. There are many areas where students can get involved in the dance community through production, after school clubs, the school dance show and being an examination dancer.

Assessment Structure

Paper 1: Performance & Choreography

Solo performance linked to a specified practitioner within an area of study. Performance in a quartet and group choreography.

- Internal assessment, external moderation
- 80 marks
- 50% of A-level

Paper 2: Critical Engagement

Knowledge, understanding and critical appreciation of two set works.

Section A – Compulsory set work and area of study:

Questions will relate to students' knowledge and understanding of the compulsory set work and area of study. Students will be required to respond to both short answer and essay questions.

Section B – Optional set works and areas of study:

Students will be required to answer two essay questions. One on an optional set work and one on the corresponding area of study.

- Written exam: 2 hours 30 minutes
- 100 marks
- 50% of A-level



Possible Career Pathways:

- Professional dancers
- Dance teacher
- Choreographer
- Work in arts administration for a dance company or theatre
- Dance artist in the community
- Private dance school teacher
- Dance theorist/University lecturer
- Become a yoga or Pilates instructor
- Marketing for dancers
- Become a dance photographer or videographer
- Costume or clothing designer
- Become a physical therapist or dance medicine specialist
- Dance scientist

Advised Entry Requirements:

Grade 5 GCSE dance or Equivalent BTEC. The experience of GCSE dance or private dance school experience to Grade 5 and above in ballet or contemporary.

Specification Link

<https://www.aqa.org.uk/subjects/dance/as-and-a-level/dance-7237>