



# Dance

“ GCSE Dance is a fresh and vibrant specification which includes popular performance and choreography, alongside a new collection of shorter, more diverse and accessible professional works. To engage and inspire your students, we’ve taken a creative new approach to the written paper. ”

Liz Dale,  
GCSE Principal Examiner and Moderator



- GCSE Dance Component 1 – Performance and Choreography

30%

## CHOREOGRAPHY

Solo or group choreography-  
Stimulus options provided by  
the exam board

Completely your own ideas for movement,  
style, structure and music.

30%

- PERFORMANCE
- Solo performance – 2 set phrases
  - (approx. 1 min long).
- Duet/Trio performance –
  - (approx. 4 min long).





# Component 2 – Dance Appreciation

**Written paper worth 40%.** Exam is 1hr 30 minutes

You will be tested on 3 topics:

Choreographic processes and performance skills.

Critical appreciation of your own work.

Critical appreciation of six professional works.

[GCSE Dance Anthology – YouTube](#)

40%

# How is GCSE assessed?

- Dance practical is assessed internally, work is videoed and is sent to the AQA for moderation during May of the final year of school.
- Practical tasks are started in Year 10 and completed in Year 11.
- All students will sit a written examination of 1hr and 30 minutes in part based on six professional dance works – answering questions on their understanding of practical work completed.
- The GCSE Dance has a natural progression route to A level dance or BTEC level 3 and subsequently to Degree level study .



# BTEC Dance

Pearson BTEC Level 1/Level 2 Tech Award in Performing Arts

Component number	Component title	GLH	Level	How assessed
1	Exploring the Performing Arts	36	1/2	Internal
2	Developing Skills and Techniques in the Performing Arts	36	1/2	Internal
3	Responding to a Brief	48	1/2	Synoptic External

- Assessed by Pearson the BTEC Dance L2 Performing Arts
- (Dance Pathway) is an alternative way to achieve a dance qualification
- via L2P – L2D\* (level 4– Level 9 GCSE equivalent).
- The course has a progression to L3 and Degree level study in dance.



BTEC Dance does not have a final written exam but marked assignments throughout the course.

The first two assignments are internally assessed and the final assignment is marked by the exam board.



- Taking GCSE/BTEC Dance can equip you with lifelong skills, empowering you to develop confidence, creative problem solving, independent thinking, group collaboration and leadership skills whilst maintaining and improving your physical and mental wellbeing.

Dance can open the door to MANY different careers. Universities and employers want well rounded individuals who can demonstrate the life skills which dance can help you develop.

“Dance is the hidden language of the soul”

Martha Graham



- Students will spend years 9 and 10 building skills in the dance studio and classroom to equip them with the knowledge, technique and confidence to complete year 11 practical coursework and examinations.

- *In a 'nutshell' the exam boards want you to be able to choreograph, perform and reflect on your work, whilst developing an understanding of six professional dance works.*



Want more  
information?

Here are some useful links:

- [AQA GCSE Dance Specification](#)
- [Pearson BTEC tech Performing Arts \(Dance pathway\) Specification](#)

If you have any further questions  
please do contact Miss Alexander by e-  
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