



Dance

CURRICULUM PLAN

Department: Performing Arts (*Drama, **Dance** and Music*)

Vision Statement:

The arts are vital for **engaging** and **maximising** the life chances of all students by providing a **stimulating, challenging** and **respectful** environment. To develop **artistically literate** students who can fully engage with **current issues** and **critically evaluate** information.

Strapline: Explore, Empower, Express (To **explore**, you will **empower** and creatively **express**)

Curriculum Story: Students will explore a curriculum which saturates them in styles and movement vocabulary, they will be empowered through a saturations of dance styles before being able to express themselves and perfect their performance.

Skills developed: To enable young performance artists to progress to the next stage of their career and provide them with the tools they need to succeed. Each performing arts lesson embeds literacy, applied numeracy and expand upon a transferable skill set.

Curriculum time: The dance curriculum in KS3 and KS4 is taught over a two-week timetable. Students in KS4 have five lessons over a two-week timetable. In years 7 & 8, students have 1 hour a week of Dance and in Y9, the time is split with drama meaning students receive half a year of dance.

Year 7: Creating Confidence		Tackle tricky techniques and build confidence in dance and performing.				
<u>Topics</u>	<u>Why we teach this</u>	<u>Links to last topic</u>	<u>Links to future topics</u>	<u>Key skills developed</u>	<u>Cultural capital opportunities</u>	<u>Links to whole school curriculum</u>
Topic 1 To explore the rhythm within and build confidence in its application.						
Introduction to Dance	Students will learn about the main ingredients of dance to build foundational knowledge of what makes a dance motif and how to choreograph short dances in the future. This topic will also provide students with the essential vocabulary to describe and evaluate dance.	As students join us from primary school this is the introduction to subject specific terminology they may have heard in schools from their PE curriculum.	The skills built in this topic are the foundation to all dance topics in the dance curriculum, leading to GCSE. Students are introduced to new terminology that will be the basis of all topics.	The focus is on building students' foundational knowledge of actions, space, dynamics and relationships and what makes a dance.	This topic links to the basics of dance and Rudolf Laban who has significance in the development of modern dance.	History of dance, developing timing, dynamics, use of space, relationships, counting.
Topic 2 Evolution of Social Dance (1920-1990)	Students are exposed to a high volume of movement vocabulary. Through this topic students explore Charleston, Lindy Hop, Rock and Roll and Breaking. Through the topic students will build autonomy of physical skill application and self-regulation as well as precision.	Introduction to specific subject terminology that they may have heard in Primary schools in in their PE curriculum.	To examine a way of moving and its development over time and find connections between dance and its context.	Basic actions and movement content. There is a strong focus on actions, dynamics, relationships, and spatial content (RADs) and taught movement.	Linking each dance style to the time period and changes in society that influenced the changes in dance.	History of dance and modern influences. Developing timing, dynamics, use of space, directions, counting in beats and bars in Maths/PE
Topic 3 To empower our cultural difference, develop concerns for society and appreciation for diversity in the tradition of dance around the world						
<u>Musicals</u> Seussical the Musical	Students learn specific numbers and choreography through a series of rehearsals students will build confidence in their practical abilities with a focus on physical skills and story telling.	Students will have a wide dance vocabulary and how movement evokes meaning.	Knowing how professionals build narrative is the first step in understanding how to develop choreography.	Technical, Physical and Expressive skills are developed and grown in sophistication in this topic.	Students will learn in brief the history of the musical that is studied.	Cross curricular links between the three performing arts subjects as well as the context of the musical.
Topic 4 To give students the tools needed to explore, empower and express their creative voices.						
Cultural Dance	To appreciate that the variety of dances for many cultures across the world is empowering and find connection between culture and other styles of	Students continue to understand all dance has a history.	To encourage understanding of the wider world.	Investigating RAD's for specific styles. Analysis of choreographic devices associated with specific cultural styles	Explore the traditions of two different countries in their use of dance for compelling reasons	Exploration of cultural celebrations and traditions in RE/History/Geography

	dance to draw the curriculum closer.				and finding connection to music.	Discovery cultural vocabulary.
Topic 5 Empower students by building confidence and subject specific skill sets.						
Upskilling Workshops	Students will take part in workshops to improve disciplinary knowledge build self-regulation and autonomy .	These workshops will expand on student relationship content	This is opportunity for teachers to assess students performance from the year and re-teach skills that will upskill and support the transition into Y8.	Understanding the content in dance and how it can be developed/technically accurate.	This transitional topic is focused on the topic and is purely focused on improving skill application and building choreographic content.	

Year 8: Recognising our Roots		Examine influential choreographers to recognise the roots of dance.				
Topics	Why we teach this	Links to last topic	Links to future topics	Key skills developed	Cultural capital opportunities	Links to whole school curriculum
Topic 1 To explore how contemporary dance has developed and be intellectually playful with students own interpretations.						
Evolution of Social Dance (2000+)	Students will explore 21 st century dance styles that move into the present day. This will enable students to find connections and evaluate the evolution of dance styles from their learning in Y7, and recognise as the world is influenced by popular culture, art, fashion and social media.	Students explored social dance styles of the 20 th century in Y7. This topic flows through to the 21 st century and the evolution of dance through to the modern day from its historical routes in these 20 th century styles.	As this topic explores mainly street dance and movement 'coined' in the street dance bracket this builds students ability to develop attitude, flair and quality of dynamics and how the body can move.	The focus is on building students' understanding of how dance has evolved from the 1920's through to the 21 st century and modern day. Students will build discipline in a variety of styles and techniques and develop understanding of multiple variations of actions, space, dynamics and relationships.	Students will look at dance styles and trends across the UK and the rest of the world.	History of dance and modern influences. Developing timing, dynamics, use of space, directions, counting in beats and bars in Maths/PE.
Topic 2 To empower students to embrace cultural difference and how they have evolved over time to see the ' Big Picture ' of dance						
Cultural Diversity	Students explore styles with open minds from a cultural perspective, to understand the variety of dance for many traditions and celebrations across the world. Focused explorations are African.	Understanding of style. Exposing student to the wealth and variety of movement vocabulary.	To encourage understanding of the wider world.	Investigating RAD's for specific styles. Analysis of choreographic devices associated with specific cultural styles.	Explore the traditions of different countries and the associated music.	Exploration of cultural celebrations and traditions in RE/History/Geography.

Topic 3 To give students the tools needed to explore, empower and express their creative voices.						
Musical Theatre Hamilton	Students will learn through this topic how historical events can be presented through musicals and the skills that accompany this, they will build on their knowledge of the dance styles and can be intellectually playful with combining historical stories with modern twists.	Students will have taken part in workshops over previous topics so will understand the concept.	The understanding of being revolutionary and evolutionary thinkers is important for the year 9 curriculum.	Technical, Physical and Expressive skills in dance and characterisation in drama.	Students will learn in brief the history of the musical that is studied.	Cross curricular links between the three performing arts subjects as well as the context of the musical.
Topic 4 To give students the tools needed to explore, empower, and express their creative voices						
Choreographic Devices (Chance Dance)	Students will learn how to develop smaller pieces of choreography to build understanding and connections on how to build more complex choreographic choices.	Understanding of how dances build from learning choreography to building a group piece.	The understanding of how to build content from the same movement by being intellectually playful with their structure and movement choices.	Structural development and more complex choreographic devices which can be used in multiple variations.	Exploring the origins of chance dance.	Developing timing, dynamics, use of space, directions, counting in beats and bars in Maths/PE. Origins of chance dance and Merce Cunninghams process of choreography.
Topic 5 To give students the tools needed to explore, empower, and express their creative voices						
Upskilling Workshops	Students will take part in workshops to improve disciplinary knowledge build self- regulation and autonomy .	These workshops will expand on student relationship content	This is opportunity for teachers to assess students performance from the year and re-teach skills that will upskill and support the transition into Y9.	Understanding the content in dance and how it can be developed/technically accurate	This transitional topic is focused on the topic and is purely focused on improving skill application and building choreographic content.	

Year 9: Perfecting Performance		Mastering the mechanics of movement and choreography				
Topics	Why we teach this	Links to last topic	Links to future topics	Key skills developed	Cultural capital opportunities	Links to whole school curriculum
Topic 1 To explore choreographic skills through a process of enquiring into a given stimulus and build resilience and perseverance to develop original ideas.						
Technique	The workshops will build students autonomy in physical, technical, and expressive skills, develop sophistication in movement content and draw on the precision of dynamic and spatial content. Once	These workshops will consolidate the practical vocabulary of the year and continue to expand their	The vocabulary will be linked to the movement content from the GCSE Set phrases and teaching students	Whilst students are learning the movement content, they are also developing precision, resilience , what good practise looks and	The topic links primarily back to the culture of dance and the discipline dancers need to acquire over time to become	The drive of the topic is excellent school values and rising to the challenge to accomplish your very best.

	the content is mastered students will then develop their expressive content of musicality, timing, and use of focus.	vocabulary if they should choose GCSE.	contemporary 'tricks'.	feels like. As well as automaticity ; otherwise known as movement memory.	competitive in the industry.	
Topic 2 Empower learners to build self-regulation , confidence and understand the importance of practise when building performance skills.						
Choreography	Until now students have explored choreography in small extracts. This topic will take students through the multi-step and problem-solving process of choreography and introduces students dance structure, form and motif development.	The topic will find connections and develop big picture thinking on choreography taught in year 7 and 8.	The skills drawn upon here will be revisited in the final year 9 topic and are a foundation of GCSE Dance.	The focus is on choreographic process, building resilience and perseverance as students move through trial and error.	The topic of exploration will have a social, cultural and or political opportunity.	As the topic will differ in stimulus over time and per group the links to the whole school curriculum will also shift to suit the needs of the learners.
Topic 3 Evaluate alternative perspectives and how artists can express a given topic.						
Social Issues	During GCSE Dance, appreciation of professional works and the choreographic intent is part of understanding choreography and how to be successful in students' own application. Through 'Social Issues' students will explore social topics and how to the arts are a tool to educate and raise creative awareness and also give students a creative voice to show alternative perspectives .	Through key stage 3 students have had ample opportunity to explore movement content related to stimuli.	If students can identify alternative perspectives , they will have greater success in the next topic and key stage 4.	Analysis and Evaluation of stylistic choices and having the ability to justify these choices.	The intent and purpose of the social issues will be evaluated and analysed as part of an appreciation process.	Links to sociology and ethics as well as moral and cultural British values.

Year 10: Growing Grit						
Choreographic process, performance, and appreciation						
<u>Topics</u>	<u>Why we teach this</u>	<u>Links to last topic</u>	<u>Links to future topics</u>	<u>Key skills developed</u>	<u>Cultural capital opportunities</u>	<u>Links to whole school curriculum</u>
Autumn Term To Explore alternative perspectives of professional works, to critically evaluate and appreciate choreography and production features.						
Dance Appreciation Emancipation of Expression Shadows	Students will develop an understanding of safe practise and personal development through performance skills. They will develop their appreciation of professional works to analyse choreographic approach and intent through choreographic tasks, building speed and	Throughout Key Stage 3 students have had opportunity to explore movement content, work on personal development and begin understanding intent and process in a variety of different dance styles.	Across Year 10 students will critically analyse 6 professional dance works, identifying alternative perspectives , find connections and link to the 'Big Picture' of why dances are created.	While students are understanding how choreographers approach developing dance, they will also build confidence in their own choreographic and performance skills in smaller groups through set tasks and learning professional repertoire.	The intent, approach and purpose of the professional works will be analysed as part of the appreciation process.	Students will be completing exam style questions and extended writing, built through academic oracy. Exploration of historical events of post war poverty, social aspects of growth and individuality.

	accuracy and understanding abstraction of ideas.					
Spring Term To Empower students to build confidence in their evaluative skills						
Artificial Things A Linha Curva	Students will build their knowledge of intention and approach to choreography becoming more autonomous in their analytical skills. Particularly in these two professional works students will use their evolutionary and revolutionary thinking to recognise innovative ways to use production features such as set, props and lighting design.	These next two professional works will expand students' vocabulary in production features, which are an analysis point that will be heavily weighted in the GCSE Exam paper in Y11 and building relationship and spatial content.	Students will constantly be finding connections based on the context of the works and apply generalisations as they study production and choreographic value.	Analysing the value and artistic impact production features have, developing relationship and spatial content in both small and large groups.	A Linha Curva particularly links back to the culture of Brazil, understanding the atmosphere and how choreographers create this through lighting and use of space. Artificial Things is heavily linked to inclusivity of all people.	Developing critical understanding of culture and representation of a culture and its values. Social, Moral, Ethical connections in understanding what inclusive dance is and being concerned for society.
Summer Term To allow students to Express their intellectual playfulness and become confident in building sophisticated variations of choreography						
Infra Within her Eyes	Students will collaborate to interpret the intention and approach of choreographers to choreograph more sophisticated phrases, using their imagination and multistep problem solving to structure dances and build their confidence in performing solos and duets.	These professional works will draw together all knowledge of motif development explored and encourage students to enquire and become intellectually playful, to create interpretive movement from the stimulus of the professional works.	In Component 1 of the GCSE Dance course students will need to perform x2 solo's and show sophisticated use of choreographic content that is highly developed to create a duet and a group piece.	Students will build on their skills of choreographic content through taking risks in developing creative choreographic responses and developing their confidence in performance skills.	The choreography students create will be their interpretation and understanding of a concern for society. Within both professional works types different types of personal relationships are uncovered and analysed.	Social, Emotional, Moral connections are made within the relationships with self and to others. Historical connections to 7/7 London Bombings and how people deal with tragedy post events.

Year 11: Making Moments		Choreographic process, performance, and appreciation				
Topics	Why we teach this	Links to last topic	Links to future topics	Key skills developed	Cultural capital opportunities	Links to whole school curriculum
Autumn Term To Explore performance and choreographic skills to create confidence and precision in performance						
Performance Solo's	Students will focus on practical exams by learning set phrases, developing Duet/Trio choreography to demonstrate accuracy and precision.	Students will be self-regulating to evaluate their own practice and confidence in their performance skills to	To show sophisticated used of choreography and choreographic development students will need to connection find	Students must abstract their knowledge and understanding of the skills for performance including physical,	Students' performance and choreography will clearly on intent, approach and process driving them to think	The duet/trio performance must have a clearly identified choreographic intent, which relates to mood,

Duet/Trio	Students will establish originality within choreographic tasks and draw upon their learning in Y10 to be critical and logical thinkers , ensuring their choreography has clear intent, mood, meaning, ideas, themes and style/s.	demonstrate accuracy and precision . They will be linking their knowledge and understanding of approach, intent and process to frame imaginative and original choreography.	and draw upon their understanding of the choreographic process, styles of dance and production features.	technical, expressive, mental, safe working practice and the choreographic process.	about the ' Big Picture ' of creating dances.	meaning, idea, theme and/or style/style fusions or a combination of these. Extended writing in full mock exam practices will feature heavily in this term.
Spring Term To Empower students to respond creatively to develop sophisticated use of choreographic content and choreographic development						
Choreography Solo or Group Choreography	Students will respond creatively to an externally set stimulus, developing original group choreography using intellectual playfulness . Each student becomes a choreographer, using complex and multi-step problem solving , using other students in the class as their dancers. During the creation students will be tested on their safe practise and continue to retrieve knowledge on the six professional works.	Students will need to abstract all knowledge of the choreographic process, content, styles of dance, structure, choreographic devices, production features and communication of choreographic intent.	In the exam paper students will be required to self-regulate to justify choices for their choreography, link to the stimulus and reflect on their knowledge and understanding of skills for choreography.	Students will strategy plan , drawing on their knowledge and understanding of the choreographic process, intent, approach, themes and styles to develop intellectually playful and original responses. They will self-regulate to systematically reflect on their own choreographic skills and how to make considered choices and improvements.	The pieces students create will be based on ideas from a stimulus. The cultural capital will depend on the stimulus chosen and the research around this stimulus and theme the students choose to create.	Students will be required to practice academic oracy to gain quality feedback before forming their justifications. This build excellence across all subjects and upholds one of the school values. Extended writing in full mock exam practices will feature heavily in this term.
Summer Term Allow students to Express their understanding to become critical and logical thinkers						
Exam Paper Preparation Moderation of Performance and Choreography	The final aspect of the GCSE Dance curriculum is a consolidation of all knowledge gained in preparation for the exam paper in Summer 1. Students will need to self-regulate to prepare for the exam with practice mock papers and questions.	Students will need to revisit the 6 professional works covered in order to develop their speed and accuracy in completing exam papers and in understanding how to extend their answers to gain all marks available.	Throughout the GCSE Dance course students will have gained experience in choreography, performance skills and the choreographic process. Integral skills that will frame the Big Picture of dance and the skills needed for A-Level.	Students will be precise in their answers, find connections between intent, approach, production features and content to form critical and logical answers, as well as thinking fluently to justify their choreographic choices.	Students will recall a variation of intent, approach and purpose as well as analysing their own personal development.	Students will complete walking talking mocks to develop academic oracy as a whole school strategy. Extended writing in full will feature heavily as well as consistent retrieval practice .