



**Curriculum intent**

Dance in Year 9 is an introduction to the world of professional dance. Pupils develop their understanding of a variety of genres, furthering their appreciation of dance and understanding the significance of factors such as costume, lighting, accompaniment, setting and choreography.

Pupils follow the AQA specification and lessons are designed to fully prepare pupils for each of the units that make up their final grade; Performance (30%), Choreography (30% and Appreciation of Dance (40%).

**Assessment**

Pupils undertake a written and practical assessment at the end of each professional work. The assessments will include a variety of tasks, such as formal topic tests, knowledge retention style quizzes, practical performances to music and teacher observation in lessons.

Self / peer and teacher assessments throughout the course help pupils understanding of section B on the exam paper.

Sections A and C of the exam paper are assessed regularly in Year 9 and 10 theory lessons.

Written paper mock exams are taken in term 2 of Year 10 and term 1 of Year 11.

**Year 9 curriculum**

Pupils study 4 of the 6 required professional works. Theory lessons focus on the professional works, questions relating to a stimulus and their own performance and choreography studied within the course. Practical lessons allow pupils to explore the professional works and develop their ability as dancers. They will study the appreciation of dance, including costume, lighting, physical setting and aural setting.

Term 1	Term 2	Term 3
Professional works: A Linha Curva Emancipation of Expressionism	Professional works: Artificial Things (Inclusive dance)	Professional works: Within Her Eyes
Dance basics	Choreographing using a stimulus	Improvisation and contact work

**Y9 Assessment**

Data collection 1 is based on results from end of unit exams on A Linha Curva and Emancipation of Expressionism and practical ability shown in dance lessons.



Data collection 2 is based on an end of unit exam on Within Her Eyes and practical ability in dance lessons.

Data collection 3 is based on duet/trio performance assessment and Within Her Eyes end of unit exam.

### **Homework**

Pupils will have varied homework if its practical based it will be working on developing choreography, refining set phrases, or working on a particular physical or technical skill. Posters, fact file revision, short and long exam style questions will be given throughout the year. Please see the Woodhey High School Homework Policy for further information.

### **Impact**

Since introducing the option of GCSE Dance the subject has been well received, experiencing increased yearly uptake and positive feedback from pupils. Lessons are engaging and enjoyable, with heavy practical content and regular opportunities to perform.

Pupils complete their GCSE Dance qualification prepared to further study at professional dance colleges, vocational courses or A Level Dance. They have a sound understanding of a range of dance disciplines and many of them choose to pursue dance as a career, in higher education or an extra-curricular setting.