



**Curriculum intent**

GCSE Dance introduces pupils 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.

**Final assessments**

Performance Unit (30%) – internal video moderation of performance in Term 1 of Year 11

Choreography Unit (30%) - internal video moderation in Term 2 of Year 11

Appreciation of Dance (40%) - written exam during the summer series of Year 11

**Year 10 curriculum**

Theory lessons in Year 10 involve a mixture of research based tasks, theory content on the appreciation of dance and familiarisation of the exam papers. Pupils will work through each section of the paper and practice exam technique for each question. In practical lessons pupils will finalise and rehearse their performances as individuals and in a duet/trio. Pupils will also develop their choreography in preparation for a mock assessment.

Term 1	Term 2	Term 3
Professional works: Shadows	Professional works: Infra	Choreography using a stimulus
Set phrases 1 and 2	Duet / Trio performance and mock assessment  Appreciation of Dance mock exam	Choreography mock assessment



**Y10 Assessment**

Data collection 1 is based on a performance mock assessment using 1 of the set phrases and end of unit exams in Shadows.

Data collection 2 includes results from Infra end of unit exam, a written mock exam and teacher assessments of duet/trio performance.

Data collection 3 is based on their Choreography mock assessment

**Year 11 curriculum**

In theory lessons, the content will have been covered in Year 9 and 10, so Year 11 focuses on consolidation of knowledge and preparation for final assessments. Practical lessons focus on final preparations for individual performances, duet/trio performances and choreography.

Term 1	Term 2	Term 3
<b>Performance Unit (30%)</b> Set phrases exam (set phrase 1+2) Duet / Trio rehearsals and final assessment  Appreciation of Dance mock exam	<b>Choreography Unit (30%)</b>  Choreography  Choreography final assessment	<b>Appreciation of Dance Exam (40%)</b>   Revision and exam assessment on appreciation of Dance

**Y11 Assessment**

Data collection 1 is based on a mock exam that tests pupils on the appreciation of dance and practical ability in the performance unit.

Data collection 2 is based on the December written paper mock exam.

Data collection 3 is based on the choreography mock assessment, performance component and the written mock 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 and mock exam papers will relate to the theory aspect of Dance. 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.