



DANCE

Controlled Assessment 4232



GCSE Dance

Rationale:

The specification focuses on the aesthetic and artistic qualities of dance and the use of movement to express and communicate idea and concepts through the interrelated processes of performance, choreography and critical appreciation.

GCSE Dance Key Features

- 80% practical.
- Choreography and performance are equally weighted (40% each).
- Controlled assessment 60%.
- Written paper of 1 hour – focuses on choice of two professional works (from 11).
- Choice of two set dances – assessed externally for all candidates.
- Teachers/ students choose professional works for study and additional works will be added in future years.
- Knowledge of safe dance practice assessed in practical context.
- Assessment grids can support teaching and learning.

This specification follows a **unitised** structure.

Unit 1: Critical Appreciation of Dance (42301)

Written paper – 1 hour – 20% of the total marks.

Students answer questions on two professional works, chosen from a list set by AQA.

Unit 2: Set Dance (42301)

Practical exam – 30 marks – 20% of the total marks.

Students perform one solo dance of approximately 1-1½ minutes from a choice of two set by us. The work is assessed externally and recordings are submitted on the media that the AQA specify.

Unit 3: Performance in a Duo/ Group Dance related to a Set Professional Work (42302)

Controlled assessment – 30 marks – 20% of the total marks.

- Students perform in a dance for 2, 3, 4 or 5 dancers, lasting 3 - 3½ minutes. Every student dances for at least 2 minutes within the piece.
- Assessment includes marks for demonstration of knowledge of safe practice.
- The dance relates to a professional work from the prescribed list.
- Three clear links with the chosen work must be shown.
- The dance teacher should be choreographed by the teacher/ dance artist in collaboration with the students.
- Tasks are devised in the centre following our instructions.
- Centre staff assess the work and marks are moderated by AQA.

Unit 4: Choreography (42304)

Controlled assessment 40% of the total marks.

Solo Composition Task

- 20 marks – 15% of the total marks.
- Each student selects three motifs from any one of the prescribed professional works and develops them into a dance of 1 - 1½ minutes.
- The student may perform in his/ her own composition.

Choreography

- 40 marks – 25% of the total marks.
- Each student choreographs either a solo dance lasting 1½ - 2 minutes OR a group dance for 2, 3, 4 or 5 dancers, lasting 2½ - 3 minutes.
- The dance may be in any style, in response to an outline stimulus from AQA.
- The chosen style must allow the student to meet the criteria for assessment.
- The student may dance in his/ her own choreography.

Work is assessed by centre staff and marks are moderated by AQA