

DANCE

William Brookes
School



Dance

Parents' Dance
Guide

2009—2010

MAIN AIMS

The department aims to create a culture where a full range of dance activities is regularly available to all students and to the local community. The intention is to make all genres of dance accessible to students and to develop their performance, compositional and appreciative skills.

SCHOOL PRODUCTIONS

The annual dance festival is an opportunity for the students to perform publicly and includes students from Years 7 to 10 in junior and senior dance clubs. GCSE and A Level Dance students have the opportunity to show their own choreography. We annually host a primary dance festival that included work from all 8 primary schools. Each year we are invited to attend a variety of festivals including Shropshire Youth Dance Festival and the Ludlow Festival.



DANCE STAFF:

Miss M Bartlett
Mrs J Harper
Ms A Vermee

(Dance Co-ordinator)
(Dance Teacher)
(Art Centre Manager
/Technician)

CURRICULUM

THE CURRICULUM

At Key Stage 3 Dance is taught as a separate subject and as part of the PE Curriculum.

Students in Key Stage 3 work on a carousel with Performing Arts. They receive one term of Dance, Drama and Music and rotate around these subject areas, changing every half term. The Dance course is based on the three strands of: Performance, Composition and Appreciation.

GCSE Dance can be taken as an option in years 10 & 11 following the AQA Dance specification. This is weighted 80% practical & 20% written work. The course breakdown is:

Unit 1 Critical Appreciation of Dance—written paper (1 hour) 20%

Unit 2 Set Dance—Practical Examination (1½ minutes) 20%

Unit 3 Performance in a duo/group dance—Controlled Assessment (3½ minutes) 20%

Unit 4 Choreography—Task 1: Solo Composition 15%; Task 2: Final Choreography 25%

A Level Dance also follow the AQA specification. As Dance is weighted 40% written & 60% practical work. The course breakdown is:

AS—Unit 1 Understanding Dance—Written Examination 40% (20% of A2 grade)

AS—Unit 2 Choreography & Performance—Solo choreography & performance, performance in duo/group 60% (30% of A2 grade)

A2—Unit 3 Dance Appreciation: Content & Context—Written Examination 25% of A Level

A2—Unit 4 Group Choreography & Solo Performance—Practical Examination 25% of A Level

EXTRA CURRICULAR DANCE

Dance clubs are run as after school clubs 4.00pm—5.00pm offering the students the opportunity to develop their performance skills. In addition students can book out space in the Edge Arts Centre during lunchtimes to work on their own choreography.

We currently have 7 dance clubs on offer, ranging from Year 7 to 13, including boys and girls and covering a variety of genres.

Encore is a dance club set up for years 2-4, 5-7 and 8-9. It is funded by Arts College and student contributions. This is available to all of our partner primary schools.



VISITING DANCE COMPANIES

William Brookes is now a regular venue for touring dance companies. Last year saw visits from Chitralke, Pretty Good Girl Dance Company and The Kosh.

THEATRE TRIPS

To complement the curriculum we make frequent visits to many theatres in the region, in particular Ludlow Assembly rooms, Oakengates Theatre, Birmingham Hippodrome, the home of Birmingham Royal Ballet and Theatre Severn, Shrewsbury.

WORKSHOPS

To enhance the technical and cultural experience of our students we are fortunate to have dance professionals visit school to deliver more specific workshops, including street dancing and break dancing with Sammy Palmer, contact improvisation with Motionhouse and traditional Indian dance with Chitralke. Several of our Sixth Form students have also participated in the Rambert Dance Co summer school workshop this year.



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