

# GCSE DANCE

**AQA GCSE DANCE (8236)**



**Krish Bhakerd 11S: dance has allowed me to develop my performance skills and training whilst being creative and innovative**

**Miri 11R: the practical lessons are a break from the more written based subjects and I enjoy working with my friends in lessons**

**Maya Andrews 11R: dance has built my confidence both in and out of the classroom. It's challenging but fun!**





**Fairfield  
High School**

*Achieving Excellence*

# Course Structure

## Component 1: Performance and choreography

### What's assessed

#### Performance

- Set phrases through a solo performance (approximately one minute in duration).
- Duet/trio performance (minutes in a dance which is a maximum of five minutes in duration).

#### Choreography

- Solo or group choreography – a solo (two to two and a half minutes) or a group dance for two to five dancers (three to three and a half minutes).

### How it's assessed

Internally marked and externally moderated

#### Performance

- 30% of GCSE
- 40 marks

#### Choreography

- 30% of GCSE
- 40 marks

Total component 60%

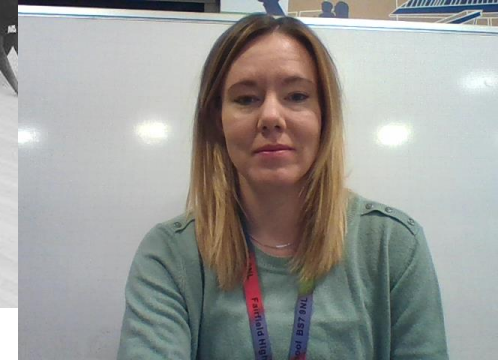
## + Component 2: Dance appreciation

### What's assessed

- Knowledge and understanding of choreographic processes and performing skills.
- Critical appreciation of own work.
- Critical appreciation of professional works.

### How it's assessed

- 40% of GCSE
- Written exam: 1 hour 30 minutes
- 80 marks



# Course Structure Simplified

**Practical Assessments (60% of final grade) → 3 separate **filmed** assessments in Year 11**

- Solo phrases (30 seconds each)
- Performance in a duo/group
- Choreography

**Theory exam (40% of final grade) → 1 exam paper**

- Health and nutrition
- Choreography and performance
- 6 professional dances of various styles: hip hop, samba, contemporary, dance for camera, ballet, inclusive dance including lighting, costume, setting, music, choreography





# Career opportunities

Dance performer – theatres/music  
videos/cruise ships/resorts/events/circus

Choreographer

Youth Dance teaching – freelance or  
within curriculum at KS3, KS4 and KS5

Community dance practitioner

Health and nutritionist

Movement therapist

Dance photographer

Project Coordinator

Costume Designer

Set designer

Lighting designer

Dance/arts/culture officer

Stage Management

Stunt double

Aerial artist

Physiotherapist

Yoga instructor

Personal Trainer

Pilates instructor

Dance lecturer

Dance producer

Dance journalist

Dance film maker

Dance critic



# Additional Information



All students are required to purchase the **GCSE Dance T shirt and optional Hoody**

Students will take part in numerous **professional workshops** which relates to their component 2 exam whilst developing skills for component 1

Students will have the opportunity to attend **theatre trips** to inspire their choreography

Students are **expected to perform** in Winter and Summer Galas, Options evening, primary schools, Stages Dance festival

Students are encouraged to join the **Senior Dance Company**



# FAQs



**Do I need experience in dance to take the course?**

*No prior dance experience is necessary*

**Should I attend dance classes outside of school?**

*Absolutely! Any class that develops physical skills and confidence is encouraged!*

**How are the lessons separate into practical and theory?**

*Two of the three lessons a week are practical based in the dance studio with the other theory lesson taught in a classroom*

**What is the pass rate for GCSE Dance?**

*2021: 100% grade 4 and above*

*2020: 93% grade 4 and above*

*2019: 90% at grade 4 and above*

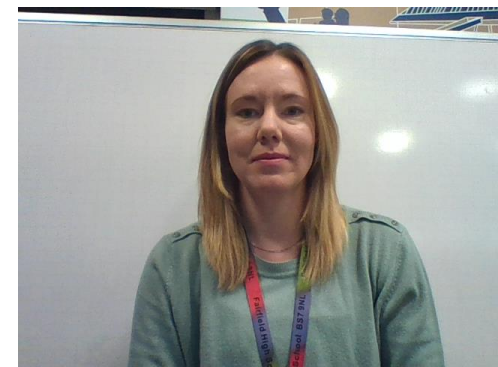


# Why should I take GCSE Dance?



- Numerous career pathways
- Develop fundamental life skills which employers will be looking for
- Improves physical fitness – strength, stamina, flexibility, posture
- It is challenging and rewarding – make memories!
- Participate in group work with friends
- Enhance understanding and appreciation of professional theatre
- Improves mental well-being
- Fun!

At GCSE level, you should choose subjects you are good at and subjects you enjoy!



# An insight into practical dance lessons....

