

NORTHGATE
SIXTH FORM **IPSWICH**
CENTRE



DANCE

A-LEVEL

2019-2020

Dance

Why choose A Level Dance?

This course will provide you with the opportunity to acquire experience of performance and choreography and to engage in critical thinking about dance. The content allows you to study a subject which can be extended through higher education and promotes a healthy lifestyle through an awareness of the importance of exercise and training.

Study at A Level provides the opportunity to gain an in-depth knowledge of specific study areas and professional works as well as connecting areas of practice with your own developing skills and theoretical understanding. This provides a suitable foundation for study in higher education and for employment.

A Level Dance is suitable for anyone wanting to pursue the arts or dance in Higher Education, or as support for any course requiring good communication and group work skills. In addition to performing, choreographing and teaching, this course might lead to such diverse careers as dance therapy or journalism.

Dance helps students develop a number of skills:

- Visual appreciation of dance and choreography
- Balanced judgement
- Information gathering and assessment
- Ability to work on your own or as part of a team
- Communication.

A Level Dance is a healthy blend of coursework and examination, both practical and written. All aspects of the course will be delivered through weekly lessons however there is an expectation that much of the performance work and preparation for practical examination is undertaken through rehearsal outside of the curriculum lesson.

Awarding Body:

AQA

Entry Qualification:

Grade 4 or above in English Language. It is useful to have taken Dance at GCSE level but is not essential.

Duration of the Course:

2 Years

Course Content

The A Level Dance course requires students to develop, demonstrate and articulate practical and theoretical knowledge of the subject. It aims to cultivate creativity by allowing individual enquiry within the areas of performance, choreography and critical engagement with professional repertoire through practical and written responses.

Component 1: Performance and Choreography:

Practical exam worth 80 marks
(50% of A Level)

A solo performance linked to a specific practitioner within an area of study, a performance in a quartet and the choreography of a group is assessed by an external assessor.

Component 2: Critical engagement:

2 hour 30 minute written exam worth 100 marks
(50% of A Level).

Students are assessed on their knowledge, understanding and critical appreciation of a compulsory set work and its location within a corresponding area of study, along with one optional set work and its location within the area of study.

Teaching & Learning

Practical work, formal teaching of theory and critical appreciation, individual student research and choreography discussion.

Areas of study for 2017 are: Rambert Dance Company, 1966 - 2002
Independent Contemporary Dance in Britain, 2000 – current

Set works are:

Rooster – Christopher Bruce,
Choreographer of the set work

Sutra – Sidi Larbi Cherkaoui,
Choreographer of the set work

Extra-curricular Dance

As you will be aware from the outline of the course, there is a very heavy demand on performance ability. It is vital therefore that students of the subject are performing and rehearsing on a regular basis. There will be the opportunity for students to support dance activities at KS3 and KS4, leading workshops, mentoring younger performers and to choreograph pieces for the annual dance evening. Opportunities exist for students to become involved in the school show.

Progression

With other A Level subjects for entry to Dance and Performing Arts at degree or HND Level. Careers relating to performing and teaching at both primary and secondary level.

Curriculum Leader: Miss H Patrick

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