This guide is for students, parents and carers. It outlines: Information about the GCSE course; the topics on each examination paper and coursework, and where students can find revision and other resources; and ends with examination/assessment tips specific to this subject.

**Course Title and Exam Board**

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| Exam board | AQA | |
| Course title | GCSE Dance - 8236 | |
| Course structure and assessment | Component 1 – Performance and Choreography – 60% - Internally examined  Component 2- Dance Appreciation- 40% - Written examination | |
| Key dates | Year 11 - November | Written mock exam |
| Year 11 - December | Two Set Dances to be performed and assessed |
| Year 11 -February | Performance in a duet/trio to be performed and assessed.  Written programme notes – 150 words approx. |
| Year 11 -April | Choreography in a solo or group to be performed and assessed.  Written programme notes – 150 words approx. |
| Year 11 - 13 June | Written exam - 1.30 hour |

**GCSE Examinations**

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| --- | --- | --- | --- | --- |
| Paper | Marks | Duration | Weighting | Topics on this paper |
| Component 2: Dance Appreciation/written exam | 80 marks | 1.30 hour | 40% | Externally assessed   1. Knowledge and understanding of choreographic process and performance skills 2. Critical appreciation of own work 3. Critical appreciation of 6 professional dance works |
| Component 1: Performance | 12 marks | 30 seconds each dance | 10% | Internally assessed   1. Two set dances – Breathe and Shift. |
| Component 1: Performance | 24 marks | Duet/trio 3-5 minutes | 20% | Internally assessed   1. A duet or trio based on a given stimulus and assessed performance skills. (Must include 2 phrases of movement from the two other set dances – Scoop and Flux) 2. Written notes -150 words approximately |
| Component 1: Choreography | 40 marks | Group: 3 - 3.30 minutes.  Solo: 2 – 2.30 minutes. | 30% | Internally assessed   1. Students can choose either a solo or group (2 – 5 people) and select 1 out of 5 stimuli from the exam board to base the dance on. 2. Written notes – 150 words approximately |

**Course Components (a more detailed explanation of skills and topics)**

*Examination Written Paper – Dance Appreciation*

Students apply knowledge, understanding and appreciation of their own and six professional set works.

Students need to use appropriate terminology and be able to critically analyse, interpret and evaluate their own work in performance and choreography and demonstrate their knowledge and understanding of the six set professional dance works. Students will be examined through a written exam of one and half hours duration.

*Performance -*

Students must develop and apply the following knowledge, understanding and skills to perform dance as a soloist for approximately one minute and in a duet/trio for three minutes.

Students need to understand the physical and technical skills. Students will also apply expressive skills.

*Choreography –*

*Students will learn how to respond creatively to an externally set stimulus, to choreograph their own complete dance. Students can choose to do either a solo of 2 – 2.30 minutes or a group dance of 3 – 3.30 minutes.*

*To create their own dance students must know, understand and be able to apply the following action, dynamic, spatial and relationship content.*

**Where are the revision resources?**

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| Revision topics | What resources to use |
| **Paper 1** | For websites give hyperlinks with explanation of what it is.  Exam Practice - P:\Students\REVISION\Dance\Exam Papers  Knowledge - P:\Students\REVISION\Dance\Knowledge  Examples of model answers - P:\Students\REVISION\Dance\Model Answers  Quizzes - P:\Students\REVISION\Dance\Quizes |
| **Written Paper**  Dance Appreciation |
| Performance | P:\Students\REVISION\Dance\Online |
| Choreography | P:\Students\REVISION\Dance\Online  Music List - P:\Students\REVISION\Dance\Knowledge  List of News Events - P:\Students\REVISION\Dance\Knowledge |

**Examination Tips Specific to this Subject**

* Read and understand the meanings of the Dance Vocabulary. This will help you use the correct terminology.
* Read through the ‘Knowledge and Understanding’ document in the Revision folder. This will remind you of the differences between the Physical, Technical, Expressive and Mental Skills.
* Always give examples when required, and describe the actual movement.
* Revise and know the 6 professional dance works. Use the Summary of the 6 Dance Works’ in the Revision folder, to remember the similarities and differences between the pieces. This will help with the longer questions in Section C.