

Ridgeway School GCSE DANCE



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Handbook 2009-11

1. INTRODUCTION

This study guide contains all you need to know about the course!

You will, no doubt, already have a strong interest in dance and many of you will be experienced performers. Over the next 2 years you will receive the opportunity to broaden your knowledge and experience of dance. You will perform, choreograph, watch, and analyze dances! An exciting time for those of you who haven't studied dance in this way before!

2. GETTING STARTED.

You will need a Dance file to keep your notes safe, you will need to bring this each lesson.

You will need suitable dancewear for each lesson (tracksuits/T-shirt/bare feet). You will need to remove all jewellery before class (don't wear anything precious!)

You will be expected to perform in the Gym and Dance Display and other performances as arranged.

Attending trips to see performances is an essential element of the course and you will be expected to attend trips arranged. Costs will vary dependant on ticket prices and travel arrangements.

It is vital that you rehearse outside of lesson times. This course demands that YOU take responsibility to do so!

You will be expected to work co-operatively and collaboratively with other members of the group.

INDUCTION:

The first 2 weeks of the course will be considered as INDUCTION. You will be introduced to the different aspects of the course and be given a variety of practical and theoretical tasks to complete. This will give you a good understanding of what the course is all about and enable you to feel more confident that this is the right course for you. Additionally it will allow the teacher to find out more about your aptitude for the course.

3. SYLLABUS DETAILS

All students will take GCSE Dance in summer 2011.

You will be entered for:

GCSE Dance 4232

Exam Board AQA

4. THE COURSE

You will study three key areas of dance:-

Performance:

- Improving your skills as a dancer.
- Learning about safe practice and key elements of being a healthy dancer.
- You will learn a set study set by the board.
- Perform in a group dance set by your teacher.

Choreography:

- Learning the skills of composition, making dances.

Appreciation:

- Analyzing and interpreting dances.
- Looking at the history of dance.
- Studying the set dance "Bird Song" by Siobhan Davies.

5. How You Are Marked

	Assessment	Marks
Coursework	Performance in a duo/group.	20%
	Choreography of a solo dance.	15%
	Choreography of a solo or group dance	25%
Practical exam	Performance of the set study	20%
Written exam Critical appreciation of Dance	Three sections which test your knowledge on the course content.	20%

6. THE COURSE PLAN Year 10

Term 1		
Choreography	Performance	Analysis
Introduction to key choreographic skills	Introduction to dance technique and safe studio practice.	Discovering the constituent feature of dance.
Term 2		
Explore choreographing movements to a theme. Choreographing by chance.	Learning and rehearsing the mock set study in preparation for the practical exam.	Bit of history! Analyzing 2 dances Rooster and Petrouchka
Mock set study exam		
Term 3		
Begin work on your solo or group dance.	Learning and rehearsing the group dance. In	Analyzing the set work "Birdsong"

Selecting and researching dance ideas.	preparation for the practical exam.	
Term 4		
Perfecting the choreography in preparation of the exam	Perfecting the group dance.	Continuing analysis
Term 5		
Mock assessment of choreographies.	Group Dance exam	Mock written exam

Practical Exam:

You will be assessed by the teacher at set times throughout the year.
 You will be moderated by an examiner from AQA at the end of the year.
 (This date will be confirmed by AQA examiner.)

7. WORKLOAD.

As well as your timetabled lessons, you will be required to do private study. This may include practical, written or research work. If you wish to use a practical space to rehearse your choreography you will need to arrange this with the teacher or a member of the PE department. The workload varies throughout the course but if you plan well and remain committed you won't go wrong!

8. ADDITIONAL DANCE ACTIVITIES.

You are strongly advised to continue any outside classes you may be taking in any dance style. If you do not currently attend any formal dance class I strongly recommend that you start, feel free to ask for advice.

9. RESOURCES AND COMMUNICATION.

To assist your study at home you could purchase the following:

Essential Guide to Dance by L Ashley (2002)
ISBN 0 340 803207

And a copy of the set work on video: "Birdsong" (2004) Davies available from www.dancebooks.co.uk or other outlets eg www.amazon.co.uk

There are many resources in the library for you to borrow.

You can look at the syllabus and past exam papers at the AQA website: www.aqa.org.uk

For your choreography a walkman or MP3 player is useful.
