

## KS3 Curriculum Information

Dance in Key Stage 3 is on carousel with music and drama. Students will participate for a half term (6 weeks) twice throughout the academic year. They will explore different styles of dance building their control and co-ordination. They will also look at building their creative skills by working within groups and choreographing dances to music. In Year 7, students explore the Charleston, Rock and Roll and the Swinging 60's. In Year 8 students explore the Capoeira and Bollywood Dance styles.

Dance is also taught to students in Year 9. Students get the opportunity to take their studies to a more in depth level and will have the opportunity to enhance their end of key stage grade. This subject is also a foundation year for GCSE Dance and will give pupils the chance to gain valuable knowledge and preparation for the study of the subject in Year 10 and 11. Students study a range of different dance styles including Contemporary, Street Dance and Jazz. They will also study key concepts and features related to each dance genre and will analyse the choreographic, preparation and performance process. The main assessment is through practical dance performance. Students are expected to learn teacher led dance pieces, create their own choreography and perform to an audience in a variety of styles.

## KS4 Curriculum Information

Currently we offer 2 courses at KS4, we offer AQA GCSE Dance and BTEC Tech in Performing Arts, Dance.

The AQA GCSE dance course is 60% practical and 40% theory. The course is broken down into 3 different areas:

### **Performance: 30%**

Students will need to perform a solo where they learn 2 set dance phrases taught by the teacher. They will also perform in a duet/trio using another 2 set phrases. These phrases are in contemporary dance.

### **Choreography: 30%**

Students will choreograph a solo or group dance based on a stimulus of their choice. This can also be in a dance style of their choice.

### **Written work: 40%**

Students will be tested in 3 topics; choreographic process and performance skills, analysis of their own work and analysis of six different professional works.

The course includes both theoretical and practical elements with the main 2 styles of dance being Contemporary and Street Dance.

The BTEC Tech in Performing Arts, Dance is again a mixture of both practical and theory. The course is broken down into three components.

### **Component 1: Exploring the Performing Arts**

Within this unit students will study three different professional works and look at how the choreographers have created these works. The works will be a mixture of styles.

### **Component 2: Developing Skills and Techniques in the Performing Arts**

Within this unit students will be creating a group dance/solo based on a professional work and style of their choice. They will also have to create a log book about the process and their strengths/weaknesses.

### **Component 3: Performing to a Brief**

Students will have to create a solo based on a stimulus and produce a written document about your dance.

## KS5 Curriculum Information

In KS5 we offer QCF Level 3 BTEC Performing Arts (Dance) which has produced outstanding AS level results so far with 100% A\* - A grades.

The course is made up of 6 units which focus on a variety of areas such as choreography, performance, critical analysis and physical fitness.

The Key Stage 5 Dance students also play a huge role in leading and organising dances for both dance shows at Raynes Park.

## Extra-Curricular Opportunities

In Sept 2014 we launched the RPHS 'Dance Academy' and currently have over 80 students from Year 7 – Year13 enrolled. This first year of the academy has been extremely successful with our 3<sup>rd</sup> annual Dance Show and House Dance Competitions boasting the largest amount of student participation proving just how popular and engaging the shows are. These events give the Dance Academy students a chance to showcase their skills in many different styles of dance as well as work with others from different year groups.

Our extra-curricular Dance club is extremely popular and runs every Wednesday after school, led by the Dance Department. Students have the opportunity to lead dance warm ups and students choreograph Dances based on different weekly themes.

We also have a RPHS Street Dance Crew 'Make It Rayne' who are currently the 2-time UDO National Schools Street Dance Champions and had the amazing opportunity competing in the World Championships in Glasgow. We have successfully introduced a second, Junior Street Dance Crew 'Mini Rayne' and a Contemporary Competition team 'RPDC Team'. All 3 crews will have several opportunities in competing on both a regional and National scale. An achievement from last year was that Rayne's Park Dance came 2<sup>nd</sup> in London Youth Games, winning silver medal.

## Key Trips

An annual event that the Dance Department attend is the 'Move It' dance convention at ExCel London, which costs approx. £20 for whole day entry and a workshop. We also organise trips during the year based on the opportunities and shows available such as trips to the theatre and dance competitions.

## Ways Families can Help Support

- Encouraging your son/ daughter to take part in extra-curricular dance activities and classes.
- Researching a variety of dance styles, including through watching dance based programmes, films and productions. This is extremely valuable in developing appreciation and understanding of different dance genres and techniques.
- Ensuring students have correct RPHS Dance kit for lessons