



Dance Department Information

An Introduction to the Department

In the dance department, you will find an energetic, open minded and non-judgmental environment. We have developed a diverse curriculum that prides itself on inclusivity, enjoyment and inclusion. We provide a platform for students to perform and express themselves freely. The dancers are at the centre of everything we do. We work hard to stretch the creativity and challenge of young people through performing, creating and appreciating. "A time to weep and a time to laugh, a time to mourn and a time to dance "(Ecclesiastes. 3.4). The Head of Department works alongside a part time member of staff.

Teaching

In year 7, students study dance for 2 lessons a fortnight. They are taught in mixed learning groups. At the end of year 9, students have the option to take GCSE dance. We follow a structured curriculum where students are assessed at the end of each term. Our schemes of work emphasise the importance of choreographic, physical and expressive skills, used in contemporary dance, whilst building a wide range of dance vocabulary from other dance styles.

At GCSE, we have healthy uptake and follow the AQA specification. Our current year 10 group has 17 students and year 11 has 17 students. Next academic year, we have recruited 22 students.

In 2019, 92% of GCSE students achieved on or above their indicator grade and most students went on to Bath Dance College and are now studying in London Dance schools.

Learning Outside the Classroom – Enrichment Activities

We pride ourselves in the dance department in offering a wide range of extra curriculum activities for both KS3 and KS4 students. We have a year 7 and 8 Dance Company, and a year 9 Dance Company who feature in the West Wilts Dance Festival annually at The Bath Forum. We also run a showcase called Chance to Dance in the Wiltshire Music Centre for all year groups and abilities. We take the students to Bath Dance College to watch two showcases a year and to Sadlers Wells to watch a professional dance.

Environment

The Dance Studio has fully sprung floor with mirrors and is a beautiful environment for dance. We also use Trinity Hall which is a large wooden floored space with mirrors and a stage.