

Millfield Science & Performing Arts College Dance Overview

Number of lessons taught per week:

Dance is offered for one lesson per week in year 7, year 8 and year 9. In KS4, 5 hours are given to arts subjects over a two week timetable.

KS3 dance curriculum:

Dance at Millfield is about creating independent learners who are able to work well individually and as part of a team. Learning and skills development is promoted through a range of dance experiences which are engaging for all students from the complete novice to the more experienced dancer.

Throughout the course of year 7 students study: • Basic skills • Street dance • Musical Theatre • Body Percussion • Bollywood • Just Dance. Within these topics, students will learn different dance actions that will enable them to become more confident in choreographing as a group, they will also develop their knowledge on choreographic devices and relationships; including these in their routine will make their performance more engaging and complex.

Throughout the course of year 8 students will explore analysing a range of stimuli to decide on a choreographic intent. Students will then continue to develop their technical and expressive skills to communicate this choreographic intent to their audience; they will also explore incorporating props into their routines. Our aim is to make dance accessible and enjoyable for all students. Throughout the course they will complete several dance assessments which enable us to track their progress and development. Boys and girls enjoy this subject and grow in confidence and ability throughout the duration of the course.

In year 9, students will begin to analyse six set works. They will study the choreographic intent of these works and different themes that the choreographer explores. In addition, students will analyse a range of choreographic devices and relationships that are used within the work and develop their knowledge on how these devices aid in communicating choreographic intent. Students will develop their technique in street dance, contemporary, pedestrian movement, Brazilian and contact work.

GCSE Dance:

This course is ideal for students who are passionate about dance and enjoy both performing and choreographing. Students will develop skills in the critical appreciation of six professional dance works and be able to interpret the choreographic intentions preparing them for a career in dance. Students need to have some experience and self-discipline to be able to achieve in this course. GCSE Dance requires students to be confident in performing as a solo dancer as well as in small groups. The course is made up of 60% practical work including choreography and performance and 40% theory in the form of a written exam which takes place at the end of year 11.