

GCSE DANCE

PROSPECTUS

2026



INTRODUCTION

Welcome to The Dorset Foundation College and this introduction to GCSE Dance!

This course designed to empower and inspire young dancers and encourages creativity and collaboration.

Beyond the studio, dance is a powerful tool for developing skills that last a lifetime. Throughout this course you'll strengthen your physical technique, build resilience, and learn to analyse and appreciate the work of others. This course will challenge you to think critically, work collaboratively, and find your feet both as a performer and a choreographer.



This prospectus provides you with all the essential information required for you to understand and undertake the GCSE Dance Course.

It outlines course content, term dates, assessment, fees and much more.

Please read through this document carefully and if you have any queries or questions regarding its content, please reach out to us!

Our mission is to inspire young artists to become confident, expressive, and versatile performers by providing a supportive and challenging environment where they can discover their unique creative style and develop a lifelong passion for dance.

During this 2 year course students will foster a deep understanding of dance as a powerful form of communication and storytelling that will enrich their lives and prepare them for future success both inside and outside the studio.

With best wishes,

Rebecca Yates

Co=Principal / Director

COURSE OVERVIEW

The AQA GCSE Dance course is a fantastic and balanced 2-year qualification that allows students to explore dance as a performer, choreographer, and critical thinker. It's designed to be both a practical and academic subject, with the assessment split to reflect this.

The AQA GCSE Dance course helps students develop a wide range of skills, including:

- **Physical and Technical Skills:** Enhancing strength, stamina, flexibility, control, and coordination.
- **Creative Skills:** Developing the ability to choreograph, improvise, and create original work in response to stimuli.



- **Analytical and Critical Skills:** Learning to analyse and evaluate dance works, both their own and those of professional choreographers.
- **Communication Skills:** Expressing ideas, themes, and emotions through movement, and articulating their analysis in written form using correct terminology.
- **Collaborative Skills:** Working effectively with others in group performances and choreographic tasks.

The Dorset Foundation College offers a unique experience for students taking GCSE Dance due to its specific structure and focus. Here are the key advantages:

- Small classes and individual attention
- Specialised and nurturing environment with like minded people
- Purpose built facilities
- High standard results Grades 5-9
- Convenient weekend timetable

COURSE STRUCTURE & ASSESSMENT

Component 1: Performance and Choreography (60% of the GCSE)

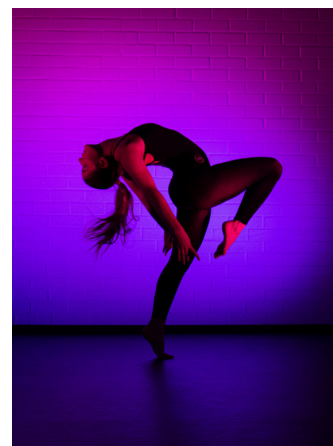
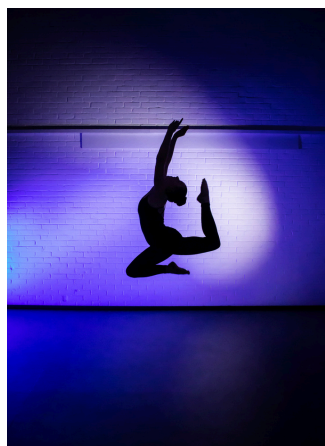
This is the practical component and is internally marked by teachers and externally moderated by AQA.

- **Performance (30%):** Students are assessed on their ability to perform two short solo set phrases, which are provided by AQA, and a duet/trio performance. Assessment focuses on physical, technical, expressive, and mental skills.
- **Choreography (30%):** Students must create a complete dance in response to an externally set stimulus. They have the choice of choreographing either a solo dance (2 to 2.5 minutes) or a group dance for 2-5 dancers (3 to 3.5 minutes). They are assessed on their ability to creatively use choreographic processes, devices, and structures to communicate a clear choreographic intention.

Component 2: Dance Appreciation (40% of the GCSE)

This is the theoretical component, assessed through a 1 hour 30-minute written exam.

- **Section A:** Focuses on knowledge and understanding of choreographic processes and performing skills.
- **Section B:** Requires students to critically appreciate their own work in performance and choreography, reflecting on their strengths and areas for improvement.
- **Section C:** Is based on the GCSE Dance Anthology, which is a set of six professional dance works that students must study in detail.



TERM DATES

AUTUMN TERM (13 Weeks)

12th September 2026 - 12th December 2026

SPRING TERM (10 Weeks)

9th January 2027 - 20th March 2027

SUMMER TERM (13 Weeks)

17th April 2027 - 17th July 2027

Please note: GCSE Dance only runs during term time.

There will be no classes during half terms or public holidays.

FEES

There are a number of payment options available for the GCSE Dance Course. This does not include the examination entry fee (£55-£70), this is an additional expense in the 2nd year.

Please see the payment options outlined below:

£40.00 PER WEEK

PAYMENT OPTION 1

Monthly Payments / Standing Order (12 instalments)

£120.00 every month

(can be adjusted to suit individual families)

PAYMENT OPTION 2

Termly Payments (3 instalments)

£480.00 - due August 2026

£480.00 - due December 2026

£480.00 - due March 2027

PAYMENT OPTION 3

Upfront payment (2 instalments)

£720.00 - due August 2026

£720.00 - due August 2027

PAYMENT OPTION 4

Upfront payment in full

£1,440.00 - due August 2026

UNIFORM

DFC Students are expected to present themselves professionally and adhere to all uniform requirements. Uniform can be ordered upon enrolment.

All Students will require a **GCSE Dance T-Shirt (£25 - £35)**

Students are then able to wear what they feel comfortable wearing in addition to the GCSE T-Shirt:

***Black Leggings, Black Flares, Black Joggers, Black Cropped Tights
Black Leotard , Grip Socks, Bare Feet, Jazz Shoes, Half Shoes.***

No large brands or logos permitted.

Hair should be tied back and off the face in either a dance bun, ponytail or plaited.

We also have ***DFC Sweatshirts, Hoodies, Fleecees and Jackets*** which can be purchased from the DFC Shop.

EQUIPMENT

Student will need the following items:

- **Water Bottle**
- **Notebook**
- **Pens**
- **Pencils**
- **Highlighters**
- **A4 Ringbinder folder**
- **Plastic Wallets**
- **Extra Wide Dividers**
- **Laptop/iPad/Tablet to work from and access the GCSE Drive**



THE DORSET FOUNDATION COLLEGE

CENTRE OF EXCELLENCE

CONTACT US FOR MORE INFORMATION

office@dorsetfoundationcollege.com

01202 890707