

Statement of Intent for Dance

The dance department at EGA is committed to providing students with opportunities to be expressive, creative and to develop a physical ability to communicate with others. Whatever the starting point or background of the student, the dance department aims to nurture an interest and appreciation of dance. Students of dance learn much about themselves; as dancers they develop confidence, self-esteem and determination to succeed and improve. As choreographer's students employ the skills of problem-solving and creative thinking, as effective choreography requires imagination and the ability to synthesise a number of elements. In directing others, students develop their interpersonal and communication skills. Through critical and analytical thinking, students articulate their knowledge, opinions and preferences of the art form and how it communicates with them.

The dance department focuses on three core strands as outlined in the national curriculum of physical education;

- Performance
- Choreography
- Analytical thinking

1. The year 7 curriculum introduces students to key concepts and techniques as performers.
2. The year 8 curriculum develops creative and analytical thinking skills by focusing on choreography.
3. The year 9 curriculum will bridge the gap between the two skills sets by culminating the two together. Aiming to provide a clear pathway of knowledge for those choosing to study the GCSE course.
4. GCSE dance further develops students' creative, expressive and analytical skills in an immersive one-year programme of study following the AQA qualification.

Across a four-year curriculum, students will;

- Develop gross motor physical skills to enable them to become competent and confident performers
- Develop a range of dance techniques and apply them in performance and choreographic work
- Develop as reflective thinkers and independent learners
- Improve analytical skills through evaluation of their own and others work, articulating ideas, concepts and techniques

- Express themselves in an artistic way through developing a range of compositional processes, communicating with others through dance
- Collaborate with others to make informed choices to generate, refine and communicate their ideas
- Have opportunities to develop and foster an interest in dance both inside of and outside of the classroom, whether that be competitively or as a performance opportunity

To nurture talent and foster a lifelong passion and interest for dance, the department offers excellent opportunities to all of our pupils whatever their previous experience. Dance contributes to the super curriculum through clubs, workshops and theatre visits that enhance students' experiences in the classroom.

Dance link partners:

- Sadler's Wells Associate School
- The Place - CAT Scheme