



KINGSWINFORD ACADEMY
ASPIRE TO EXCELLENCE

Year 11 Achieve Excellence - Parent Support Guide
GCSE Dance

Key Exam Information:

Exam Board: AQA

Assessment:

Written paper worth 40% of final grade

Practical exams worth 60% (split into four components):

Set phrases x2 20%, Performance in a duet/trio 10%, Choreography 30%

Course Overview:

1 hour 30 min paper. 3 sections of which topics include;

- **Section A** - Responding to a stimulus, discussing how to choreograph a dance using the stimulus given by the exam board plus discussing safe working practice, and descriptions, definitions and use of technical, expressive, mental and physical skills.
- **Section B** - Physical, Technical, Expressive and Mental skills and how you used them for the set phrases/ choreography/ performance in a duet/trio. The choreographic process and use of choreographic devices. Use of PEC to structure the 6 mark answers. Make your POINT, give an EXAMPLE of where it is used and explain how it CONTRIBUTES to the dance.
- **Section C** - Appreciation of six professional dance works - A Linha Curva, Infra, Artificial Things, Within Her Eyes, Emancipation of Expressionism and Shadows.
 - Students need to discuss the movement content, lighting, costume, set design and aural setting in these professional works -
 - Use of DICE structure for 12 mark answers;
DESCRIBE what you can see or hear, INTERPRET what it could mean or symbolise, how does it CONTRIBUTE to the overall work and explain its effect.

Key content/ skills covered:

Theory: 40%

- Physical Skills
- Technical Skills
- Expressive Skills
- Mental skills
- Safe working practice

Theory content also assessed in choreography:

- Actions
- Dynamics
- Space

- Relationships
- Choreographic process
- Structuring devices
- Choreographic devices
- Aural settings
- Effects on choreographic outcomes

Practical: 60%

- **Set Phrase solo performance**
- **Duet/trio performance**
- **Choreography:**

Students are required to choreograph their own dance based on different stimuli:

Dates of key assessments and deadlines:

(16 or 23)/10/25 - Filming of 'Shift'.

12/11/25 - Year 11 Mock Examinations 1

23/02/26 - 27/02/26 - Year 11 Mock Examinations 2

Revision ideas:

- You could use the resources on the google classroom to help your child to revise
- You could then ask them to show you some examples of section A stimulus and ask them to talk you through the answers.
- Flash cards are a good way of knowing key terminology and their definitions. By having the word on one side, and the definition/ example of the back.
- For section B you could watch some of their practical coursework online and ask them to describe how they used and improved their physical, technical, mental and expressive skills as well as choreographic skills.
- For section C watch the anthologies with them (some are only 10 mins long) and ask them to explain the whole dance to you - ask them questions like what is the story or the choreographic intention of the piece? How does the movement, costume/lighting/set design/music help to show the choreographic intention?
- For practical elements; you could ask them to perform to you/ have available space if possible to practice. They also have access to the marking criteria and checklist on google classroom for each practical piece.
- Encourage them to attend intervention sessions (both theory and practical). Encourage them to practice at home and have material prepared for each practical lesson for choreographies.

Links to revision sites/ resources:

Students are able to access all lesson resources via the Google classroom. They can find lesson google slides, links to watch the anthology pieces, screencasts of the anthology pieces with teacher commentary. There are also a selection of model answers, past papers, help sheets and booklets to assist revision.

Point(s) of contact:

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