

LINK TO GLOSSARY- [AQA | Subject specific vocabulary](#)

Year 7 – Discovering Elements Unit

Key Word	Definition
Dynamics	The qualities of movement based upon variations in speed, strength and flow.
Stimulus	Inspiration for an idea or movement
Action Content	Describes ‘what’ the dancer does. e.g. reach, high release, tilt, turn, upper body curve
Spatial Awareness	Consciousness of the surrounding space and its effective use
Choreography	The art of creating dance
Canon	When the same movements overlap in time
Unison	Two or more dancers performing the same movement at the same time
Transitions	A transition is a movement that link together one action, phrase or motif together
Formations	Shapes or patterns created in space by dancers
Levels	Distance from the ground, low, medium and high
Pathways	Designs traced in space (on the floor or in the air)
Repetition	Performing the same action or phrase again
Concentration	The action of power of focusing all one’s attention

Year 8 – Contemporary Dance Unit

Key word	Definition
Moving in a stylistically accurate way	Being true to the origins and history of the style. Being true to the origins and history of the style. Using the correct energy, posture and attitude to demonstrate a style.
Action Content	Describes ‘what’ the dancer does.

	e.g. reach, high release, tilt, turn, upper body curve
Spatial Content	Describes the 'where' of movement. e.g. directions, levels, pathways, spatial design
Dynamic Content	Describes 'how' the dancer moves based on variations in speed, strength and flow. e.g. fast, sharp, suspended, smooth, explosive
Transitions	Links between dance phrases or sections.
Unison	Two or more dancers performing the same movement at the same time.
Canon	When the same movements overlap in time.
Motif	A movement phrase encapsulating an idea that is repeated and developed throughout the dance.
Motif and Development	Ways in which a movement phrase can be varied.
Formations	Shapes or patterns created in space by dancers.
Levels	Distance from, the ground, low, medium and high
Directions	The facing of the movement

Year 9 Theory – Skills in Dance

Key word	Definition
Posture	The way the body is held.
Alignment	Correct placement of body parts in relation to each other.
Co-ordination	Efficient combination of body parts.
Balance	A steady or held position achieved by even distribution of weight.
Strength	Muscular power.
Stamina	Ability to maintain physical and mental energy over periods of time.

Flexibility	The range of movement in the joints , (Muscles, tendons, ligaments).
Mobility	The ability to move fluently from action to action.
Control	The ability to start and stop movement, change direction and hold a shape efficiently.
Extension	Lengthening one or more muscles/limbs.
Isolation	Independent movement of part of the body.

Year 9 - Choreographic process

Key word	Definition
Stimulus/ stimuli	Inspiration for an idea or movement.
Choreographic process	The process the choreographer goes through in order to create a dance.
Dynamics	The qualities of movement based upon variations in speed, strength and flow.
Actions	What a dancer does eg travelling, turning, elevation, gesture, stillness, use of body parts, floor-work and the transference of weight.
Relationships	The ways in which dancers interact; the connections between dancers.
Choreographic devices	Methods used to develop and vary material
Contrast	Movements or shapes that have nothing in common.
Motif and development	Ways in which a movement phrase can be varied.
Manipulation of number	How the number of dancers in a group is used.
Structuring	The way in which material is organised to create the whole.
Binary	A composition in two parts or sections.
Ternary	A composition in three parts.
Rondo	A music or dance form with alternating and repeating sections eg verse and chorus.

Narrative	Dance that tells a story.
Episodic	A choreography with several sections, linked by a theme.
Unity	A sense of 'wholeness' or harmony.
Logical sequencing	The flow of phrases or sections of a dance.
Transitions	Links between dance phrases or sections.
Researching	The systemic investigation into sources in order to establish facts and information
Improvisation	Exploration or generation of movement without planning
Generating	To use movement from improvisation to create more movement ideas
Developing	Enhancing the choreography o make it better. Choreographic devices are used to improve the choreography
Refining and synthesising	Repeating the rehearsal process so your dance is neat and ready to perform

Year 10- Emancipation of Expressionism

Key word	Definition
Emancipation	The freedom to do something or to be set free
Expressionism	Sharing your inner feelings physically through movement, drawing etc.
Stimulus	Starting point
Choreographic intent	The aim of the dance; what the choreographer aims to communicate.
Choreographic approach	The way in which a choreographer makes the dance.
Aural setting	An audible accompaniment to the dance such as music, words, song and natural sound (or silence).
Structure	The way in which material is organised to create the whole.
Performance environment	Different settings for dance such as in-the-round, proscenium and site-sensitive.

Direct correlation	When the aural setting and the movement content work perfectly together and show unity.
Mutual coexistence	When the aural setting and movement content sit side by side and work well together at times
Disassociation	When the aural setting and movement content have no link together
Musicality	The ability to make the unique qualities of the accompaniment evident in performance.
Wash of light	When the stage is illuminated by one colour across the area and there are soft edges noticeable
Fades	The transition of light from an intense light to a decrease of light on stage
Transitions	Links between dance phrases or sections.
Spotlight	When an object/ person is lit up by a light. Usually a specific shape of light is used
Intensity of light	How strong or dim the light is shining on stage
Black out	When there is no light on stage
Proscenium arch	The arch or opening that creates the effect of a picture frame and separates the stage from the auditorium.
Features of production	Different elements which make up a performance such as lighting, movement, aural setting, staging and movement content.
Rehearsal discipline	Attributes and skills required for refining performance such as commitment, systematic repetition, teamwork, responsibility and effective use of time.

Year 10 - Set Phrase Shift

Key Word	Definition
Expressive skills	Aspects that contribute to performance artistry and that engage the audience, such as focus and musicality.
Physical skills	Aspects enabling effective performance such as posture, alignment, balance,

	coordination, control, flexibility, mobility, strength, stamina, extension and isolation.
Technical skills	These include accuracy of action, timing, dynamic, rhythmic and spatial content and the reproduction of movement in a stylistically accurate way
Mental skills	These include commitment, concentration, confidence, movement memory, systematic repetition, mental rehearsal, rehearsal discipline, planning of rehearsal, response to feedback and capacity to improve.

Year 11 - Artificial Things

Key Word	Definition
Stimulus	Inspiration for an idea or movement 'starting point'
Choreographic Intent	The aim of the dance; what the choreographer aims to communicate
Choreographic Approach	The way in which a choreographer makes the dance
Improvisation	
Structure and Form	The ways in which a dance is made, built, ordered or organised
Choreographic devices	Methods used to develop and vary material
Choreographic content	Actions, space, dynamics and relationships

Year 11 Practical – Choreography

Key word	Definition
Stimulus/ stimuli	Inspiration for an idea or movement.
Choreographic process	The process the choreographer goes through in order to create a dance.
Dynamics	The qualities of movement based upon variations in speed, strength and flow.
Actions	What a dancer does eg travelling, turning, elevation, gesture, stillness, use of body

	parts, floor-work and the transference of weight.
Relationships	The ways in which dancers interact; the connections between dancers.
Choreographic devices	Methods used to develop and vary material
Contrast	Movements or shapes that have nothing in common.
Motif and development	Ways in which a movement phrase can be varied.
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Transitions	Links between dance phrases or sections.
Researching	The systemic investigation into sources in order to establish facts and information
Improvisation	Exploration or generation of movement without planning
Generating	To use movement from improvisation to create more movement ideas
Developing	Enhancing the choreography to make it better. Choreographic devices are used to improve the choreography
Refining and synthesising	Repeating the rehearsal process so your dance is neat and ready to perform