

Dance

Performance

Candidates should demonstrate:

- body action involving various combinations of flexion, extension and rotation, actions which develop from simple to more complex co-ordinations of isolated body parts and phrases of movement involving the whole body
- awareness of dynamics, use of rhythm and timing, use of personal and general space, through orientation and shaping of the body in space and size, level, direction and pathway
- technical and expressive skills of the instrument, including posture/placement, alignment, flow of energy, co-ordination, balance, strength, control, mobility, focus and projection
- all the above considerations in relationship.

Choreography

Students should develop their skills in choreography to support their Analysis of Performance in this area of activity.

Areas of analysis that may be covered are:

- the composition of solos and duets and group pieces will arise from the study of individual ideas and themes for dance. These may be developed through exploration of the following:
- body action, use of gesture, dynamics, spatial considerations and the quality of movement and expression appropriate to the dance idea
- choreographic devices such as: motif, movement phrase, development, theme and variation, repetition, contrast, climax, relationship, unison and canon – working towards the coherence and structure of the finished product – the dance
- use of accompaniment to further the chosen theme, which might include: music, words, voice, costume, lighting and other properties
- the potential and limitations of the performers
- the possibilities of stage space, exits and entrances.

Mark Band	Dance Criteria
9 – 10	Appropriate and effective use of theme is evident. The candidate skilfully varies the tempo, dynamics and accents of movement showing a deep understanding of ways of developing movement potential and individual style. The motif is complex, thus making the dance a sensitive and skilful performance, demonstrating unity and coherence. A close link is evident between the candidate's own physical ability and the art of successful expression. The candidate demonstrates clarity of expression by skilful mastery, fluency and control of the instrument through varied use of tempo, dynamics and accents of movement. The candidate is highly confident and well focused.
7 – 8	Effective use of the chosen theme shows clear variation in tempo and accent. The candidate demonstrates a clear understanding of expression through well structured movements. Rhythmic patterns show fluency, continuity and logical progression. The motif shows a clear development of choreographic devices and is performed with style and elegance, showing confidence and spatial awareness. The candidate demonstrates a clarity of expression through a mastery, fluency and control of the instrument with rhythmic awareness. The candidate projects with confidence and is focused.
5 – 6	Effective use of the chosen theme, the candidate explores the scope for variations in tempo and accent. He/she demonstrates a clarity of expression through intended body action, showing some fluency of movement and rhythmic awareness. The motif shows a clear development, enabling the dance to be performed with some style and elegance, with some movement in both personal and general space. The candidate demonstrates clarity of expression through a wide variety of intended body actions, showing some fluency of movement and rhythmic awareness. The candidate projects him/herself with confidence but focus lacks continuity.
3 – 4	The theme is conveyed by a clear and relevant movement content. The candidate demonstrates a wide variety of actions using the body in a fluid manner and displays an understanding of linking body actions and movement phrases throughout the dance. The motif is developed through the dance, showing various choreographic methods in structured form. Contrast, repetition and accent is evident. The candidate demonstrates control of bodily movements and a variety of basic effort actions, some of which are linked, using the body as an expressive instrument. The candidate projects him/herself with some confidence but focus tends to be inward.
1 – 2	Theme is explored through some relevant movement content. The candidate demonstrates a limited mastery of basic effort actions and is able to use some gestures and movements which are expressive of the chosen theme. The dance shows evidence of motif development through the use of speed and directional changes. The candidate demonstrates limited control of bodily movements and limited mastery of basic effort actions. The candidate lacks confidence and concentration in performance.