

AS/A LEVEL DANCE



WHY STUDY A LEVEL DANCE?

When studying **Dance** at Tallis you will have the opportunity to develop as a **performer, choreographer** and **critic**. You will be able to learn and develop in a practical sense through a range of **technique classes and choreography workshops** with practitioners from the dance industry, and through a wide variety of **theatre trips** to allow you to experience and create high quality dance. In addition, you will **critically analyse professional dance works** from choreographers such as Christopher Bruce, Richard Alston, Matthew Bourne, Sidi Larbi Cherkaoui, Hofesh Shechter and Akram Khan. We provide you with **professional performance spaces** such as our state of the art dance studios, with fully sprung floor and mirrors, and the

main hall performance space. We offer space every day for extra rehearsals. At Tallis we work to a very high standard of both practical and theory work, looking to challenge our pupils in all areas of dance. The **discipline** and **persistence** gained in A-Level dance will be invaluable to any career path you decide to embark on after Tallis. We also encourage you to audition for our resident **T2 Dance Companies**, as it will broaden your performance experience within the school shows, at outside dance venues and external competitions.

A Level Course:

Component 1

Performance:

You will **perform a solo**, based on one of the areas of study. This could include set repertoire from either Rambert Dance Company or the Independent Dance Scene in Britain (see component 2). You will be assessed only on your **performance** of this, demonstrating technical and expressive skills.

You will also **perform in a quartet** which will be taught by your teacher, giving you the opportunity to demonstrate skills in relationship to other members of the group, such as timing, formations and contact.

Choreography:

You will then complete a piece of **group choreography**, which a group of dancers will perform for you, based on a chosen stimulus sent by the exam board.

Component 2

Critical Engagement: You will understand and critically analyse **two set works** and the **areas of study** that correlate with these.

Area of Study 1:

Rambert Dance Company

Compulsory Work:

Rooster by Christopher Bruce

Other works:

Ghost Dances, Cruel Garden, Sergeant Early's

Dream and Swansong by Christopher Bruce

Soda Lake and Pulcinella by Richard Alston

Lonely Town Lonely Street by Roberth North

Soldat by Ashley Page

Area of Study 2:

The Independent Dance Scene in Britain

Compulsory Work:

Sutra by Sidi Larbi Cherkaoui

Other Works:

Zero Degrees by Sidi Larbi Cherkaoui and Akram Khan

Rush, Desh and Sacred Monsters by Akram Khan

Sun, Political Mother by Hofesh Shechter

Faultline by Shobana Jeyasingh

Swan Lake, The Nutcracker, Sleeping Beauty and The Car Man by Matthew Bourne

How am I assessed?

Component 1: 50% of A-Level.

Internally assessed/externally moderated. Three sections as **practical exams (80 marks total).**

Component 2: 50% of A-Level - externally examined. You will sit a 2 hour **written exam** of two sections (100 marks total):

A - short questions and an essay question on the first set work/area of study (50 marks).

B - two essay questions on the second set work/area of study (50 marks).

If you have any additional queries, please email Ms Rider on arider@thomastallis.org.uk