



Blue Coat Church of England Academy

Year: 9

Subject: Dance

Overview

The Dance taster course in year 9 comprises a range of performance and choreography opportunities, as well as introducing pupils to understanding and analysing professional dances in greater depth.

The taster course covers a range of dance styles, including street dance, contemporary, lyrical and commercial dance. There is also the opportunity for pupils to plan and teach lessons to the rest of their class in styles they know from home, for example this year, working either alone or in pairs, pupils taught dances from Bhangra, African and Polish styles to the rest of their class.

Pupils will perform and choreograph pieces that have a sense of storyline and character, and will be able to draw upon skills developed in English and Drama to do this. For example, one of the professional pieces we look at is Swansong by Christopher Bruce - a dance that tells the story of a political prisoner who is detained unlawfully in a South American jail and intimidated by two prison guards. Pupils will learn how to portray a character through a variety of strategies in dance, for example through using facial expression, gaze, body language and dynamics.

Pupils will also develop their ability to perform and choreograph dances inspired by music, art, real life and poetry, and their final piece of work in year 9 will draw together all of the things they have learned to create their own dance from start to finish, choosing their own theme and inspiration, their own music, their own movements and their own costume.