

Dance Progression Ladder

Skills

Knowledge

Actions: show controlled movements which express emotion and feeling.
Dynamics: explore, improvise and combine dynamics to express ideas fluently and effectively on my own, with a partner or in a small group.
Space and relationships: use a variety of compositional principles when creating my own dances.
Performance: demonstrate a clear understanding of timing in relation to the music and other dancers throughout my performance.

Year
6

Actions: understand that actions can be improved with consideration to extension, shape and recognition of intent.
Dynamics: understand that selecting a variety of dynamics in my performance can help to take the audience on a journey through my dance idea.
Space and relationships: know that combining space and relationships with a prop can help me to express my dance idea.
Performance: understand how a leader can ensure our dance group performs together.
Strategy: know that if I keep in character throughout, it will help me to express an atmosphere or mood that can be interpreted by the audience.

Actions: choreograph dances by using, adapting and developing actions and steps from different dance styles.
Dynamics: confidently use dynamics to express different dance styles.
Space: confidently use direction and patterning to express different dance styles.
Relationships: confidently use formations, canon and unison to express a dance idea.
Performance: perform dances expressively, using a range of performance skills, showing accuracy and fluency.

Year
5

Actions: understand that different dance styles utilise selected actions to develop sequences in a specific style.
Dynamics: understand that different dance styles utilise selected dynamics to express mood.
Space: understand that space relates to where my body moves both on the floor and in the air.
Relationships: understand that different dance styles utilise selected relationships to express mood.
Performance: understand what makes a performance effective and know how to apply these principles to my own and others' work.
Strategy: know that if I use dance principles it will help me to express an atmosphere or mood.

Actions: respond imaginatively to a range of stimuli related to character and narrative.
Dynamics: change dynamics confidently within a performance to express changes in character.
Space: confidently use changes in level, direction and pathway.
Relationships: use action and reaction to represent an idea.
Performance: perform complex dances that communicate narrative and character well, performing clearly and fluently.

Year
4

Actions: understand that some actions are better suited to a certain character, mood or idea than others.
Dynamics: understand that some dynamics are better suited to a certain character, mood or idea than others.
Space: understand that space can be used to express a certain character, mood or idea.
Relationships: understand that some relationships are better suited to a certain character, mood or idea than others.
Performance: know that being aware of other performers in my group will help us to move in time.
Strategy: know that I can select from a range of dance techniques to translate my idea.

Actions: create actions in response to a stimulus individually and in groups.
Dynamics: use dynamics effectively to express an idea.
Space: use direction to transition between formations.
Relationships: develop an understanding of formations.
Performance: perform short, self-choreographed phrases showing an awareness of timing.

Year
3

Actions: understand that sharing ideas with others enables my group to work collaboratively and try ideas before deciding on the best actions for our dance.
Dynamics: understand that all actions can be performed differently to help to show effect.
Space: understand that I can use space to help my dance to flow.
Relationships: understand that 'formation' means the same in dance as in other activities such as football, rugby and gymnastics.
Performance: understand that I can use timing techniques such as canon and unison to create effect.
Strategy: know that if I show sensitivity to the music, my performance will look more complete.

Actions: accurately remember, repeat and link actions to express an idea.
Dynamics: develop an understanding of dynamics.
Space: develop the use of pathways and travelling actions to include levels.
Relationships: explore working with a partner using unison, matching and mirroring.
Performance: develop the use of facial expressions in my performance.

Year
2

Actions: know that sequencing actions in a particular order will help me to tell the story of my dance.
Dynamics: understand that I can change the way I perform actions to show an idea.
Space: know that I can use different directions, pathways and levels in my dance.
Relationships: know that using counts of 8 will help me to stay in time with my partner and the music.
Performance: know that using facial expressions helps to show the mood of my dance.
Strategy: know that if I practice my dance my performance will improve.

Actions: copy, remember and repeat actions to represent a theme. Create my own actions in relation to a theme.
Dynamics: explore varying speeds to represent an idea.
Space: explore pathways within my performance.
Relationships: begin to explore actions and pathways with a partner.
Performance: perform on my own and with others to an audience.

Year
1

Actions: understand that actions can be sequenced to create a dance.
Dynamics: understand that I can create fast and slow actions to show an idea.
Space: understand that there are different directions and pathways within space.
Relationships: understand that when dancing with a partner it is important to be aware of each other and keep in time.
Performance: know that standing still at the start and at the end of the dance lets the audience know when I have started and when I have finished.
Strategy: know that if I use exaggerated actions it helps the audience to see them clearly.

Actions: explore how my body moves. Copy basic body actions and rhythms.
Dynamics: explore actions in response to music and an idea.
Space: begin to explore pathways and the space around me and in relation to others.
Performance: perform short phrases of movement in front of others.

EYFS

Actions: understand that I can move my body in different ways to create interesting actions.
Dynamics: understand that I can change my action to show an idea.
Space: know that if I move into space it will help to keep me and others safe.
Performance: know that when watching others I sit quietly and clap at the end.
Strategy: know that if I use lots of space, it helps to make my dance look interesting.

