

Dance Teaching Pathways

Guidance on routes into teaching
and qualifications



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Image credit: Brian Slater

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Context

From April 2012, the Secretary of State for Education, under The Education Act 2011¹, regulated the teaching profession in England with legislation for the school-based workforce. In Wales, the Education Workforce Council² is the independent regulator for school teachers. In Scotland, the General Teaching Council for Scotland³ is the independent self-regulating body for teaching. This means that teaching in the formal education sector (schools and colleges) is governed by national authorities. How to become a teacher in mainstream education is highlighted on pages 10-12.

In terms of the formal education sector; the same teaching qualifications are recognised across England, Wales and Northern Ireland as these nations share the same Qualifications & Credit Framework (QCF). In Scotland there is a separate Scottish Credits & Qualifications Framework (SCQF) and therefore their recognised qualifications are different.

Dance however is taught in a variety of different settings and sectors that are not regulated. This means there is no law or rule in identifying who is qualified and no prescribed route in how to become qualified. This document should provide some clarity and guidance on what dance teaching qualifications are on offer and our suggested 'best practice' routes into teaching for both formal (education) and informal (community/youth) sectors. This document is primarily focused education in England, however there are some references to Wales, Scotland and Northern Ireland. If you want more guidance on teaching in England contact One Dance UK, in Wales contact National Youth Arts Wales, in Scotland contact YDance and Northern Ireland contact DU Dance NI.

This guidance is accompanied by a flow chart – find it online.

Disclaimer

This information is intended as a broad guide for those exploring dance teaching options. It should not be considered exhaustive. It is compiled to the best of our knowledge at the time of publication and will be subject to periodic review. One Dance UK does not specifically endorse qualifications or qualification providers and anyone undertaking training or employing teachers should undertake their own rigorous research and due diligence.

One Dance UK cannot be held responsible for any omission, or information contained on third party websites/documents.



Image credit: Brian Slater

1 <http://www.legislation.gov.uk/ukpga/2011/21/contents/enacted>

2 <https://www.ewc.wales/site/index.php/en/>

3 <http://www.gtcs.org.uk/>

What is your starting point?

Before considering your options for teaching qualifications or routes into teaching, it is key to acknowledge where you are starting from. Your experiences and education so far can determine which qualifications are available to you and the type of study you need.

You need to ask yourself:

- Do I have enough dance subject knowledge/skills?
- Can I study full-time?
- Do I need to learn teaching principles and dance pedagogy?
- What setting(s) do I want to teach in?

Before teaching dance, you may need to deepen your subject knowledge. For example, if you are in compulsory education/aged 16-19, changing careers, a youth worker or teacher in another area of specialism (i.e. PE or Primary Teacher) or in need of upskilling and help with feeling confident in delivering dance.

If you are still in compulsory education you can continue studying through an undergraduate dance degree before progressing onto a Postgraduate Certificate in Education (PGCE), or a Level 6 Diploma or a Master's in Education in Scotland depending on which setting you want to teach in, see [page 5](#).

If you are a trained youth worker or someone with teaching experience, you may have the right attributes to teach, however you need to upskill your dance knowledge and possibly your teaching knowledge through dance qualifications Level 2/3 upwards. Go to [page 5](#) to select what setting you'd like to teach in.

If you are a qualified teacher in another subject, you need resources and/or a course/training to help give you the tools/knowledge to deliver dance and to feel confidently in doing so. In Scotland, the MEd 2nd subject professional registration in dance with GTCS, see [page 11](#) for more information.

If you have a BA Hons degree in dance, then you should have great knowledge and understanding of dance in its artistic form, creation, history and culture but not necessarily suitable teaching skills. Additionally, you may have lots of experience of dance as a performer/artist, which might provide good dance subject knowledge to draw upon when teaching, however, lack the understanding of pedagogy and teaching principles/standards. In these cases, there are many options to upskill in dance teaching and learning. You could complete a full-time teacher training such as a Postgraduate Certificate in Education (PGCE), Masters in Education or School Centred Initial Teacher Training (SCITT). If you want to keep working, you could complete a Level 6 Diploma or part-time PGCert. To become qualified, pick the setting(s) you want to teach in on [page 5](#).

Which setting(s) do you want to teach in?

Once you have considered what your areas of development are; whether it's teaching principles or subject knowledge and whether you can commit to full-time study or shorter courses would be better, you need to also consider (in parallel) what setting(s) you want to teach in.

The following pages 6 to 19 outline the best routes and qualifications for teaching in specific settings, age group or type of students. It is also important to note that there are lots of options available and we encourage striving towards Level 6/7 or above qualifications.



Image credit: Brian Slater

Teaching dance in Higher Education

Higher Education institutes offer vocational and academic qualifications that are designed to prepare young people for a career in performance, teaching, event management and production/admin. Teaching in this sector broadly falls into two areas: research and teaching. However, there are different requirements needed in order to work in each of these areas or both. It is also key to highlight that the usual rule is that you should be qualified at 'one level above' the course that you teach. For example, you may need to be qualified at postgraduate/Master's Degree Level 7 or above (PhD) to teach on an undergraduate degree course.

To deliver practical dance technique, choreography or performance modules, you would be expected to hold substantial qualifications, such as a BA (Hons) dance degree or above with experience/expertise in a particular area(s) and have or be willing to gain a teaching qualification.

If you do not hold a teaching qualification, universities will most likely request you to work towards a teaching qualification (PGCE in Higher Education) in house whilst in post.

You could complete a Postgraduate Certificate in Education (PGCE) in Post-Compulsory Education/Lifelong Learning/Further Education and Training, or a Diploma in Dance Teaching and Learning/Dance Pedagogy¹, all with Qualified Teacher Learning and Skills (QTLS) status that is required for teaching post-16 education. With these qualifications, you can work in Further Education settings, building teaching experience and expertise, to then work up and develop into Higher Education. However, it is important to acknowledge that even with a PGCE teaching qualification and relevant experience, a higher education institute may request working towards a research fellowship (in house) in order to have deep knowledge of current research in the area of study that you teach in.

To be a researcher, you would likewise be expected to have extensive credentials, usually qualified to a Master's Degree Level 7 or a PHD Level 8 in a subject specialism. Although you can be in a scholar post, where you focus on research/academia, you may be required to do an element of lecturing. Universities may request working towards a teaching qualification (in house) whilst in a researcher post.

Current² teaching qualifications available in England aimed at those that want to teach in HE:

- Postgraduate Certificate in Education (PGCE) Level 7 in Higher Education with QTLS
- Postgraduate Certificate in Education (PGCE) Level 7 in Teaching and Training in Post-Compulsory Education with QTLS
- Postgraduate Certificate in Education (PGCE) Level 7 in Lifelong Learning with QTLS
- Postgraduate Certificate in Education (PGCE) Level 7 in Further Education and Training with QTLS
- Postgraduate Certificate (PGCert) in Performance Teaching (option to get FHEA accreditation to teach in a HE institution (PGCert HE)
- Level 6 Diplomas (variety of options) provided by Awarding Bodies validated by CDMT.

¹ Diploma in Dance Teaching and Learning or Dance Pedagogy requires a placement/school/institute that will allow you to complete the necessary teaching hours to pass the course

Fellowships available in England¹:

- Associate Fellowship (AFHEA)
- Fellowship (FHEA)
- Senior Fellowship (SFHEA)
- Principal Fellowship (PFHEA)

Current teaching qualifications available in Scotland:

- Royal Conservatoire of Scotland Masters in Education (MEd) in Learning and Teaching in the Arts
- University of Edinburgh Postgraduate Diploma/Master of Science (PGDip/MSc) Dance Science and Education with GTCS

See [UCAS](#) website to search for PGCE courses, [CDMT](#) website for dance organisations with teaching qualifications (including the diplomas above), contact [YDance](#) for information on Scottish qualifications and [Higher Education Academy](#) for fellowships.



Image credit: Brian Slater

Teaching dance in Further Education

Further Education (FE) colleges offer vocational qualifications that are designed to prepare young people and adults for a career in dance.

To teach in Further Education colleges you can complete a Postgraduate Certificate in Education (PGCE) in Post-Compulsory Education/Lifelong Learning/Further Education and Training, or a Diploma in Dance Teaching and Learning/Dance Pedagogy¹, all with Qualified Teacher Learning and Skills (QTLS) status that is required for teaching post-16 education.

Additionally, you can complete a PGCE or SCITT in Secondary Dance with Qualified Teacher Status (QTS) which is aimed at teaching dance in Secondary Schools at Key Stage 3 and 4, however some schools do offer Post 16 provision with routes into Key Stage 5 and therefore allow you to teach vocational qualifications for each of these Key Stages and age ranges. As a qualified school teacher, you are already fully qualified to work in the FE sector. There is nothing to stop you applying for jobs in Further Education establishments. Although the job adverts may refer to other teaching qualifications (i.e. Diploma in Education and Training, DET), your PGCE/QTS is fully recognised in this sector. Your employer may potentially request extra training of which can be done whilst in post.

Essentially, a Level 6/7 PGCE with QTLS or QTS should provide the necessary teaching principles, pedagogy and skills to teach Post 16 students.

Another route would be to hold substantial qualifications, such as a BA (Hons) dance degree (or above) with experience/expertise in a particular area(s) and work towards a teaching qualification part time whilst in post.

Current² teaching qualifications available in England:

- Level 7 Postgraduate Certificate in Education (PGCE) in Teaching and Training in Post-Compulsory Education with QTLS
- Level 7 Postgraduate Certificate in Education (PGCE) in Lifelong Learning with QTLS
- Level 7 Postgraduate Certificate in Education (PGCE) in Further Education and Training with QTLS
- Level 6 Diplomas (variety of options) provided by Awarding Bodies validated by [CDMT](#).

Current teaching qualifications available in Scotland suitable for teaching from S5:

- Royal Conservatoire of Scotland Masters in Education (MEd) in Learning and Teaching in the Arts
- Royal Conservatoire of Scotland Masters in Education (MEd) 2nd subject professional registration in dance with GTCS
- University of Edinburgh Postgraduate Diploma/Master of Science (PGDip/MSc) Dance Science and Education with GTCS

See [UCAS](#) website to search for PGCE courses, [CDMT](#) website for dance organisations with teaching qualifications (including the diploma's above) and contact [YDance](#) for information on Scottish qualifications.

¹ Diploma in Dance Teaching and Learning or Dance Pedagogy requires a placement/school/institute that will allow you to complete the necessary teaching hours to pass the course

Teaching dance in Secondary School/Sixth Form¹

In most schools, to be the dance teacher, you will need to have a degree and a recognised teaching qualification.

You can gain qualifications through Initial Teacher Education or Training (ITET) programmes from across the UK, which are broadly similar, providing a combination of academic study and time in school, as you learn about key teaching methods.

In England, to take up a teaching post in a maintained secondary school or a maintained/non-maintained special school you need Qualified Teacher Status (QTS). Maintained schools form part of the state-funded school's system (including primary, secondary and special schools for pupils with special educational needs) and are overseen by local authorities.

Under the 2010 to 2015 Conservative and Liberal Democrat coalition, the government removed the requirement that teachers in Academies, grammar schools, private schools, independent schools, free schools, studio schools and university technical colleges must have Qualified Teacher Status².

This means that these schools have the discretion as to who teaches in their school. However, all schools continue to be held accountable for the quality of teaching through Ofsted inspection and the publication of school performance data. Most Head Teachers/Principals still require teachers to have Qualified Teacher Status (QTS) and value the importance of this status. We advise gaining QTS and requiring the necessary skills, knowledge and understanding for such a demanding profession.

Qualified Teacher Status can be obtained from several routes; university-led undergraduate and postgraduate courses, or school-led routes of School Direct (salaried and non-salaried), Teach First and School-Centred Initial Teacher Training. Teach First only offer certain subjects, and do not offer dance. Schools Direct only offer dance as an unsalaried subject.

Initial Teacher Training programmes for dance as a stand-alone subject (not Physical Education or Performing Arts) are very limited with only four university providers offering Postgraduate Certificate in Education in Secondary Dance with Qualified Teacher Status (QTS). There are sixteen school-led routes (SCITT) and 11 Higher Educational Institutes (HEIs) offering places across England³, which may have limited dance specialist teaching training. It's worth noting that before you begin dance teacher training you will need a good relevant honours degree and grade C/level 4 or above in GCSE Maths and English. There is a list of qualifications available in England on [Page 11](#). You are no longer required to take professional skills tests in literacy and numeracy, instead this will be evidenced at interview or during the training course.

¹ Key Stage 3-Key Stage 5 / S1-S6

² Gov.uk: <https://www.gov.uk/government/news/academies-to-have-same-freedom-as-free-schools-over-teachers>

³ April 2020

Wales and England require QTS to teach, with university-led postgraduate and undergraduate teacher training, Teach First and the Welsh Graduate Teacher Programme. All teachers in Wales are also required to register with the Education Workforce Council (EWC) and QTS awarded by the Education Workforce Council is automatically recognised in England. However, specific teacher training in dance is currently only available in England (yet recognised in Wales), see the list of qualifications available in England. Welsh teacher training programmes also do not require passing the professional skills tests, and secondary schools in Wales require at least a grade B/level 5 in GCSE Maths and English (and one GCSE in Science, Grade C/level 4 or above to teach primary or Early Years).

In Northern Ireland, there are university-led Initial Teacher Education (ITE) programmes with General Teaching Council for Northern Ireland (GTCNI) registration. Undergraduate courses require grade C/level 4 or above in GCSE and/or grade C or above in GCE Advanced Level qualifications. Postgraduate Certificate in Education courses require a degree. However, exactly like Wales, specific teacher training in dance is currently only available in England, see the list of qualifications available in England.

In Scotland, to work in schools you need to be GTCS (General Teaching Council for Scotland)¹ registered. You can gain this through Initial Teacher Education, which is university-led including undergraduate programmes and PGDE (Professional Graduate Diploma in Education) courses in primary and secondary education. Similar to England, dance teacher training programmes are limited, however there are postgraduate dance courses with GTCS that require a good relevant honours degree, see below for the list of qualifications available in Scotland.



Image credit: Brian Slater

¹ General Teaching Council for Scotland:
<http://www.gtcs.org.uk/TeacherJourney/teacher-journey.aspx>



Current¹ teaching qualifications available in England:

University-led postgraduate courses:

- University of Brighton; Secondary Dance PGCE with QTS
- University of Chichester; Secondary Dance PGCE with QTS
- Royal Academy of Dance; Dance Teaching PGCE with QTS
- University of Wolverhampton; Secondary Education Dance PGCE

School-led Initial Teacher Training:

- For the most up-to-date information about SCITT providers, please visit [Gov.UK](https://www.gov.uk)

Additionally, the following courses provide alternative routes in getting qualified with options of gain Qualified Teaching Learning and Skills (QTLS) status, however QTLS is aimed at Post 16 education (see [page 8](#)):

- Imperial Society of Teachers of Dancing (ISTD) Level 6 Diploma in Dance Pedagogy with QTLS
- British Ballet Organisation (BBO) Dance Level 6 Diploma in Dance Teaching with QTLS

See [CDMT](#) website for dance organisations with teaching qualifications.

Current teaching qualifications available in Scotland:

- Royal Conservatoire of Scotland Masters in Education (MEd) Initial teacher education in dance with GTCS
- Royal Conservatoire of Scotland Masters in Education (MEd) 2nd subject professional registration in dance with GTCS
- University of Edinburgh Postgraduate Diploma/Master of Science (PGDip/MSc) Dance Science and Education with GTCS

Contact [YDance](#) for information on Scottish qualifications.

Already a qualified teacher without dance subject knowledge?

If you are a qualified teacher, Continuing Professional Development (CPD) is key to help give you the resources and knowledge to deliver dance confidently.

1st4Sport Level 3 Award Supporting the Delivery of Dance in Physical Education and School Sport qualification is ideal for qualified teachers wanting to learn how to deliver dance as part of PE.

In Scotland, the Royal Conservatoire of Scotland has a Masters in Education (Med) 2nd subject professional registration in dance with GTCS, for more information see their website.

Additionally, visit [page 18](#) for information on available Continuing Professional Development (CPD) courses, training and teaching resources for dance.

Teaching Dance in Primary School¹

In most schools, to be employed as a dance teacher, you will need to have a degree and a recognised teaching qualification.

You can gain a qualification through Initial Teacher Education or Training (ITET) programmes from across the UK, which are broadly similar, providing a combination of academic study and time in school, as you learn about key teaching methods.

To work in Primary Schools, teachers gain Qualified Teacher Status (QTS) through several routes; university-led undergraduate and postgraduate courses, or school-led routes of School Direct (salaried and non-salaried), Teach First and School-Centred Initial Teacher Training.

Primary teachers are usually required to deliver the full range of subject content from the either [National Curriculum](#) for England, the [National Curriculum](#) for Wales, the Northern Ireland [Curriculum](#) or the [Curriculum for Excellence](#) in Scotland. It is unusual for a Primary Teacher to be employed to teach a single subject such as dance.

In England, Wales and Northern Ireland, dance is compulsory for Key Stage 1 and 2 as part of Physical Education and young people are required to do [60 minutes of physical exercise daily](#), of which at least 30 minutes should be done at school. This can be achieved through dance. In Scotland, the Curriculum for Excellence highlights dance in both Expressive Arts and Health and Well-being curriculum areas.

Although some primary teachers have specialist knowledge in PE or dance, many do not. Primary Schools sometimes hire freelance dance teachers/artists or agency dance coaches to deliver dance to their pupils. As dance can be seen as a niche area of teaching for only a specific area of the primary curriculum, often there is not any regulation on qualification requirements for a dance teacher. Head Teachers however do recognise and acknowledge teachers with QTS/QTLS/GTCS and experience teaching Early Years, Key Stage 1, or Key Stage 2 (or Primary 1-7 in Scotland) will be desirable.

Current² teaching qualifications available in England:

University-led postgraduate courses:

- University of Brighton; Secondary Dance PGCE with QTS
- University of Chichester; Secondary Dance PGCE with QTS
- Royal Academy of Dance; Dance Teaching PGCE with QTS
- University of Wolverhampton; Dance Teaching PGCE with QTS

See [UCAS](#) website to search for courses.

¹ Early Years Foundation Stage to Key Stage 2 / In Scotland Primary 1-7)
² April 2020

Additionally, the following courses provide alternative routes in getting qualified with options of gain Qualified Teaching Learning and Skills (QTLS) status, however QTLS is aimed at Post 16 education (see [page 8](#)):

- Trinity College London Level 6 Diploma in Dance Teaching and Learning (DDTAL) with QTLS
- Imperial Society of Teachers of Dancing (ISTD) Level 6 Diploma in Dance Pedagogy with QTLS
- British Ballet Organisation (BBO) Dance Level 6 Diploma in Dance Teaching with QTLS

See [CDMT](#) website for dance organisations with teaching qualifications.

Current¹ teaching qualifications available in Scotland:

- Royal Conservatoire of Scotland Masters in Education (MEd) Initial teacher education in dance with GTCS
- Royal Conservatoire of Scotland Masters in Education (MEd) 2nd subject professional registration in dance with GTCS
- University of Edinburgh Postgraduate Diploma/Master of Science (PGDip/MSc) Dance Science and Education with GTCS

Contact [YDance](#) for information on Scottish qualifications.



Image credit: Brian Slater

Syllabus Teaching/ Teaching in the Private or Recreational Dance Sector

You can train as a dance teacher through an Awarding Body in a specific dance style(s). These teachers work in out of school settings, predominately in dance studios/dance schools where children and young people attend classes at evenings and weekends. They usually offer Pre-Graded, Graded or Vocational Graded Examinations and/or awards, as well as opportunities to compete in dance competitions. This area of teaching is often referred to as the 'private' or 'recreational dance sector' with styles such as Ballet, Tap, Modern, Jazz, Freestyle, but also includes Folk, South Asian and other national styles.

There are 17 awarding bodies validated by CDMT. For the full list of validated awarding organisations and more guidance visit [CDMT](#) website.

Teacher training through these bodies is usually through Level 4 to Level 5 qualifications. Some do also offer Level 3 qualifications in dance instruction/assistant and Level 6 qualifications with Qualified Teaching Learning and Skills (QTLS) status to deliver dance in other educational settings. The Awarding Bodies usually expect teachers to maintain/develop their skills through regular CPD.

Level 6 dance teaching qualifications aim to provide the full scope of training required to be a good dance teacher. Teachers can progress through Level 3, 4 and 5 qualifications to Level 6.

It is key to acknowledge that Level 3 to Level 5 qualifications are not appropriate for teaching in formal school settings, to understand how to teach in schools please visit [page 9](#) for Secondary Education and [page 12](#) for Primary Education.

Level 3 qualifications are for assisting and supporting the delivery of dance. One Dance UK deliver the Level 3 Supporting the Delivery of Dance in Physical Education and School Sport created by 1st4Sport and afPE, aimed at delivery dance within schools.

Current¹ qualifications:

- Level 6 Diploma in Dance Pedagogy
- Level 6 Dance Teaching
- Level 5 Diploma in Dance Teaching Studies, Dance Teaching or Dance Teaching and Management
- Level 4 Diploma/Certificates in Dance Education, Dance Teaching or style specific Teaching Studies
- Level 3 Diploma/Certificates in Dance Instruction or Dance Teaching Assistant
- Level 3 Award in Supporting the Delivery of Dance in Physical Education and School Sport

Teaching Dance in the Community

To teach in community/youth settings you need to have good knowledge and understanding of dance and the ability to adapt your teaching to cater for different learner needs, ages and abilities. We advise gaining a higher-level qualification, ideally Level 6/7 in teaching with QTS or QTLS, requiring the necessarily skills, knowledge and understanding to teach quality dance classes.

As a community/freelance practitioner you can set up independent classes, run a youth dance group/company, work for a dance/performing arts studio or be contracted by a dance company or organisation doing educational outreach or project-based work. This work requires you to have strong organisational skills, up to date Public Liability Insurance, DBS check, up to date knowledge of safeguarding, First Aid training/safe practice knowledge and adhere to HM Revenue and Customs sole trader/self-employed requirements. To improve your practice for the safety of those you are teaching, Safe in Dance International (SiDI) have a [Healthy Dance Practice Certificate](#) to be upskilled in this area.

When planning and delivering a youth dance performance event, you have a duty to ensure that anyone working with children is suitable to do so, such as by ensuring they have a recent DBS check and that you comply with the local authority's requirements of Child Performance and Chaperone Licencing as well as any music copyright policy.

[People Dancing](#) produced the [National Occupational Standards for Leaders in Dance](#). These provide a useful framework for assessing your own practice, in order to consider the range of skills you need to develop to be most effective.

To deepen knowledge and skills in dance teaching, outside of a formal syllabus, the Level 6 Diplomas outlined on [Page 8](#) provide route to high standard teaching.



Image credit: Brian Slater

Teaching Young People with Additional Needs or Disabilities

Essentially teaching people with additional needs or disabilities requires excellent teaching practice, where the teacher is mindful of the needs of the participants and differentiate their style/tasks/space as needed to best support engagement from all those taking part.

Teaching disabled young people can require specialised skills and knowledge of the abilities and needs of the participants. These skills can be obtained by participating in training and CPD from leading Disability Arts Organisations, Disability-related Dance Companies and National Disability Organisations. For example; [Stopgap Dance Company](#) have an inclusive dance syllabus giving teachers a framework to develop disabled dancers called IRIS, along with teaching resources as do [Candoco Dance Company](#) and [Magpie Dance](#), amongst others.

Dance UnStuck is a useful tool for those teaching ballet to physically disabled children and their website provides video and written advice to teachers.

Most university-led Postgraduate Certificate in Education and diplomas in dance teaching and learning/dance pedagogy cover some principles for how to teach inclusively.



Image credit: Brian Slater



Teaching Dance in Sport and Fitness Initiatives

To teach in a gym you are required to have a minimum Level 2 qualification and be certified by Register of Exercise Professionals (REPs). These qualifications do not necessarily embed knowledge for fitness instructors to advise or teach dancers about fitness/body conditioning for the demands of dance performance. Level 2 qualifications are designed for the instructors to deliver a specific exercise specialism and not the artistry and creativity of teaching creative dance styles. Therefore, these are ideally only for use in fitness specific contexts and not dance in educational, youth or community sectors.

The available courses for dance fitness instruction are:

- Exercise, Movement & Dance Qualifications
- Zumba Qualification
- Dance Fitness Qualification
- Group Training to Music

Level 2 qualifications can provide access to continue progressing and developing through Level 3, 4 and 5, up to Level 6/7 Diploma qualifications with QTLS.

To work in schools (the formal education) sector you are required to have an undergraduate degree and a teaching qualification with QTS/GTCS/GTCNI or QTLS for Post 16 education, see [page 9](#).



Image credit: Brian Slater

Maintaining and Developing Teaching Practice

Keep developing your teaching practice and subject knowledge through Continuous Professional Development (CPD), Training and Teaching Resources. Below is a list of the possible options. Additionally, if you have completed a Level 6/7 teaching qualification you may want to do a Master's in Education to deepen knowledge whilst working.

CPD (without certification):

- Day Course
- Week Course
- Twilight sessions
- TeachMeet
- Conferences/symposiums

One Dance UK CPD:

- Introduction to Primary Dance
- Ready, Step, Teach! – online CPD packages in Primary and Secondary dance
- Develop Performance, Composition and Appreciation Skills in Primary Dance
- Delivering Dance at KS3; Creative Responses to Feedback in Dance
- Delivering a Successful Youth Dance Performance Event
- Bespoke CPD sessions for schools
- Dance teaching conferences

For more information see [One Dance UK](#) website or contact cpd@onedanceuk.org

Training (working towards certification):

- Safe practice in dance
- Child protection and safe guarding
- First aid

One Dance UK recommends: Safe in Dance International – [Healthy Dance Practice Certificate \(HDPC\)](#).

All adults working with children and young people and/or vulnerable adults have a legal and moral obligation to safeguard those they work with. Find more resources here:

- [Safer Dance](#)
- [NSPCC](#)
- [Ann Craft Trust](#)

Teaching Resources:

- Lesson Plans
- Schemes of Work
- Learning Frameworks
- Assessment documents
- TOP Dance cards
- Skill Ladder
- Books and publications

One Dance UK Teaching Resources:

- Lesson Plans (150+ online)
- Schemes of Work
- Assessment without Levels at KS3 (Dance)
- Dance In and Beyond Schools
- Dance Teaching and Learning: Shaping Practice (3rd edition)
- Learning Frameworks for all Key Stages
- Books and publications for all education and health

For more information see [One Dance UK](https://www.onedanceuk.org) website or contact cpd@onedanceuk.org



Image credit: Brian Slater

Progression Routes in Dance for Children and Young People

Higher Education:

Dance BA (Hons) Degree: see [UCAS](#) website for degree providers

Compulsory Education:

Formal qualifications for Key Stage 5 students:

- AS/A-Level Dance
- BTEC/UAL Level 3 Diploma in Dance/Performing Arts
- Level 3 RSL Creative and Performing Arts (Dance)
- OCR Level 2/3 Cambridge Technical Diploma in Performing Arts
- Scotland: SQA National 5, Higher Dance or NC, HNC, HND in Dance or Performing Arts

Formal qualifications for Key Stage 4 students:

- GCSE Dance
- Level 1/2 BTEC Tech Award in Performing Arts
- BTEC Level 2 Technical/Tech Award in Performing Arts
- Level 1/2 RSL Tech Awards in Creative & Performing Arts
- Level 2 RSL Diploma in Creative & Performing Arts
- UAL Level 2 Diploma in Performing & Production Arts
- Scotland: SQA NPA Level 3 & 4

Other Dance Provision:

- Dance Leadership Award(s)
- Arts Award(s)
- Graded Syllabus Exams 6-8
- Youth Dance Performance Company
- [National Centres for Advanced Training](#) (CATs)
- National Youth Dance Companies
 - [National Youth Dance Company](#) (England)
 - [National Youth Dance Company of Scotland](#)
 - [National Youth Dance Wales](#)
- Choreographic Schemes
- Dance Ambassador/Leadership Schemes
- Regional and National performance platforms (i.e. [U.Dance](#))

For more information see [One Dance UK Guide on Careers in Dance](#) or One Dance UK 'Dance In and Beyond Schools' publication for information on dance organisations offering the 'Other Dance Provision' by emailing info@onedanceuk.org.

What is a Subject Association?

[Subject Associations](#) are membership organisations and registered charities, whose mission is to further the teaching and learning of a specific subject in schools, colleges and universities. They are independent of government and believe very strongly in supporting teachers in their subject specialism. Do you know there is a subject association for dance? It's One Dance UK!

As the Subject Association and voice for dance in schools, we promote the importance of children and young people's entitlement to high quality dance education. Consulting with teachers and educational professionals, we offer specialist advice, information, research and best practice for the whole workforce as well as advocating and championing dance education both in and out of schools UK wide. You can find us in the free CfSA [Subject Association Directory](#).



We believe very strongly in:

- Supporting teachers with professional development and to up-skill their practice
- Advocating to government and policy makers, on the importance of high-quality dance in schools
- Raising the standards of dance teaching, both within and outside of school
- Improving access, opportunities and progression routes, by raising aspirations through high quality dance for all children and young people

Join us today if you would like to:

- Be up to date on teaching and learning strategies
- Have access to dedicated sources of information
- Over 150 teaching resources
- Receive educational news
- Have updates on policies, legislation, curriculum and qualification changes
- Have discounted books and publications
- Be part of a dance teaching community
- Be part of a louder voice in keeping dance on the school agenda
- Be part of our annual conference, events and CPD training (discounted for members)
- Help leadership see, hear and acknowledge that all children should have access to dance, no matter who they are or where they live
- Find out about and access projects and programmes:
 - Dance Teaching Awards
 - U.Dance (national performance opportunities for young people)
 - Dance Ambassadors (national leadership programme for young people)
 - Young Creatives
- Receive our twice yearly One magazine, with the latest artistic discussion, industry information and 2 pull-out teacher resources

Our Teacher and School memberships are affordable, supportive, informative and provide opportunities for networking and professional development for those working in dance teaching and learning both in and out of schools.