

Dance Teaching Pathways

Flowchart of Routes into Teaching Dance



First Published October 2017
Updated April 2020

Image credit: Brian Slater

1. What is your starting point?

QTS/GTCS Teacher but not a dance specialist
Perhaps you are a qualified PE, Drama, Performing Arts or Primary Teacher

As a qualified teacher you need resources or a course/training to help give you the tools/ knowledge to deliver dance and feel confidently in doing so.

The Level 3 Award in supporting the delivery of dance, written by 1st4Sport and afPE, is ideal for qualified teachers wanting to learn how to deliver dance or Scotland's MEd 2nd subject professional registration in dance with GTCS. See Section 3 for qualifications and Section 4 for professional development.

Dance Artist, Choreographer or Performer
Not a qualified teacher

As an experienced artist/performer you have dance subject knowledge to be able to teach but lack understanding of pedagogy. To gain this, pick the setting to teach in. Scotland's Postgrad/MEd in Teaching and Learning (Performing Arts) and PGDip/MSc in Dance Science and Education with GTCS is aimed at artists teaching in various settings.

Youth worker, career change, need to upskill, someone who cannot access formal education (degree or higher)

Your experiences/talent have given you the right attributes to teach, however you need to upskill your dance knowledge or progress into teaching from Level 2 upwards. To do so, pick which setting you'd like to teach in.

Graduated from University with a BA (Hons) in Dance or equivalent

Completing a three year study gives great knowledge and understanding of dance in its artistic form/creation/history/culture but doesn't necessarily embed skills of teaching and learning to qualify students as teachers. To become qualified pick the setting you'd like to teach in.

Compulsory Education 16-18 years
AQA AS/A Level Dance (or Performing Arts). BTEC/UAL/RSL Level 3 in Dance/Performing Arts. OCR Level 2/3 Cambridge Technical Diploma in Performing Arts. SQA National 5, Higher Dance or NC, HNC, HND in Dance or Performing Arts.

Other Dance provision for 11-18
Dance Leadership Award(s), Arts Award(s), Sports Leaders Awards. Graded Syllabus Exams 6-8. Youth Dance Performance Company. National Centres for Advanced Training (CATs). National Youth Dance Companies (NYDC, NYDCS, NYDW). Choreographic Schemes.

Compulsory Education 11-16 years
AQA GCSE Dance. Level 1/2 BTEC/RSL in Performing Arts. AQA/BTEC Level 2 Technical/ Tech Award in Performing Arts. SQA NPA level 3 & 4.

2. Which setting do you want to teach in?

- Higher Education/ Universities Undergrad and Postgrad courses
- Further Education Post 16 Compulsory Education in College/ Sixth Form NC/HNC/HND
- Secondary School/ Sixth Form Key Stage 3, 4 & 5 / S1-S6
- Primary School Early Years Key Stage 1 & 2 Primary 1-7
- Syllabus Teaching Private Dance Sector
- Community Settings Freelance/ Contract work
- Exercise and Fitness

Universities may request working towards a teaching qualification (in house) whilst in a researcher/academia post. Additionally, with a teaching post/PGCert teaching qualification a university may request working towards a research fellowship (in house). To be a researcher/scholar, one route is to study at Master/PHD level in a subject specialism. However, there are Higher Education Fellowships after completing a PGCert in teaching. Universities may accept experience/expertise over qualifications.

3. Teaching qualifications/routes

Level 7/8
Doctor of Philosophy (PhD) in subject specialism
Masters degree (MA) in subject specialism
Higher Education Academy Fellowships after completing a PGCE/PGCHE
See [UCAS](#) and [Advance HE](#) websites for more information

Level 6/7
PGCE Secondary Dance with QTS
Assessment only with QTS
School Direct salaried, Schools Direct tuition fee
School-centred Initial Teacher Training (SCITT) with QTS
PGCE/CertEd in Post-Compulsory Education/Lifelong Learning/Further Education and Training with QTLS
Postgraduate Early Years Initial Teacher Training (EYITT)
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.
Postgraduate Teacher Apprenticeship
Returning to teaching
PGCert in Performance Teaching (option to get FHEA accreditation to teach in a HE institution)
PGCE in Post Compulsory Education
Cert Ed in Post Compulsory Education (PCE) / Prof Grad Ed
PG Cert qualifications
MEd Initial teacher education in dance with GTCS
MEd Teaching artist in higher education (HEA accredited)
MEd 2nd subject professional registration in dance with GTCS
MSc Dance Science and Education with TQS status 3 - 18
See [UCAS](#) and [Advance HE](#) websites for more information

Level 4/5
Future Teaching Scholars programme
Level 5 Diploma in Education and Training
Undergraduate degree plus postgraduate training
Undergraduate Early Years Initial Teacher Training (EYITT)
Undergraduate Initial Teacher Training
See [CDMT](#) and [UCAS](#) websites for more information

Level 3
Exercise Movement & Dance Qualifications
1st4Sport: Supporting the Delivery of Dance in Physical Education and School Sport
See [One Dance UK](#) website for more information

Level 2
Dance Fitness Qualification
See [EMD](#) website for more information

4 • CPD Teacher Training and Resources

One Dance UK CPD

- Introduction to Primary Dance
- Ready, Step, Teach! Online CPD for Primary and Secondary dance
- 1st for Sport Delivering Dance in Physical Education and School Sport
- Dance teaching conferences
- Primary Dance Online Course (coming soon)
- Dance teacher day CPD (coming soon)
- Dance teacher career talks (on request)

For more information contact cpd@onedanceuk.org or head to <https://www.onedanceuk.org/careers/professional-development/cpd-courses-and-training/>

Health & Safety and Safeguarding courses

- Safe in Dance International
- Healthy Dance Practice Certificate (HDPC)
- First Aid
- Safeguarding in Dance
- Training and safeguarding and child protection with NSPCC

Resources

- Lesson Plans
- Schemes of work
- Learning frameworks
- Assessment documents

Books and publications

One Dance UK:

- Lesson plans (150+ online)
- 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
- A guide to careers in dance

Other:

- Complete Guide to Primary Dance by Lyn Paine

For more information contact cpd@onedanceuk.org



Image credit: Brian Slater