# Year 7 Dance Term 1 Knowledge Organiser – Musical Theatre

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| Key vocabulary – Physical & Performance skills  |  |  | | --- | --- | | **Extension** | The lengthening of body parts outwards. E.g. Straight arms and pointed toes | | **Flexibility** | The range of movement possible in the joints/muscles | | **Coordination** | The ability to use different parts of the body together smoothly and efficiently. | | **Posture** | The way the body is held | | **Stamina** | Ability to maintain physical and mental energy over periods of time. | | **Timing** | Performing the correct movement at the correct time. This should be in time with your group | | **Musicality** | How in time you are with the music | | **Energy** | How much physical effort you apply to the performance | | **Facial Expressions** | Animating the face to engage with your audience/communicate the theme of your performance | | **Projection** | Projecting your movements outwards into the space with appropriate energy. | | **Dynamic Awareness** | Noticing and applying the correct quality to each movement. For example: sharp, soft, fluid etc. | | Fundamental/Topic specific knowledge:  **Matilda the Musical** Matilda the Musical is a stage musical based on the 1988 children's novel Matilda by Roald Dahl. The narrative centres on Matilda, a 5 year old girl with a magical gift. Matilda loves reading, overcomes obstacles caused by her family and school, and helps her teacher to reclaim her life. Key extracts include Revolting Children and Naughty. **Key Themes/Features:**   * Independence * Making a stand * Levels   **Dance style:** Jazz/Musical Theatre. The movement was developed from the books illustrations and the observations of young children.  **Hairspray**  Hairspray is an American musical based on John Waters’ 1988 film of the same name. The musical is set in the 1960’s in Baltimore. Hairspray tells the story of a young lady named Tracy whose dream is to dance on The Corny Collins Show. Tracy wins a role on the show leading to social change as she campaigns for the show's integration. Key extracts include Nicest Kids in Town and You Cant Stop the Beat.  **Key Themes/Features:**   * Equality * Social Change   **Dance style: (1960’s Dance styles)** The styles of dance in Hairspray are 1960’s styles of dance including The Madison which is a line dance that features a regular back-and-forth pattern interspersed with called steps and The Twist which is a style inspired by rock and roll music which involves swivelling the hips. |
| Key questions  |  |  | | --- | --- | | **Key question** | **Answer** | | **Why do we warm up in dance?** | To prepare the body for physical activity and to avoid injuries. | | **What are the 3 sections of a warm up?** | 1. Pulse Raiser 2. Mobilisation 3. Stretches | | **Why do we complete each section of the warm up?** | Pulse raising activities increase our heart rate in order to circulate blood and oxygen supplying the muscles with more energy to work with.  Mobility exercises prepare our muscles for movement and lubricate the joints.  Stretches increase flexibility allowing for a wider range of movement. | | **What are choreographic devices?** | Choreographic devices are the tools that we use to make our choreography more original and interesting. | |

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| Key vocabulary – Choreographic Devices  |  |  | | --- | --- | | **Canon** | Performing the same movement one after another. | | **Unison** | Performing the same movement at the same time | | **Formation** | The position you stand in to perform. | | **Levels** | The height at which you perform your movement | | **Repetition** | Repeating the same movement or phrase more than once | | **Mirroring** | Dancers to do the same travel, jump, shape, or balance at the same time to produce the illusion of a mirror image | | **Retrograde** | Performing a phrase backwards | | **Call and Response** | A dancer performs a phrase or a ‘call’ and another dancer responds with movement. A conversation through dance. | | Fundamental/Topic specific knowledge: **Mary Poppins the Musical:**  Mary Poppins the musical is based on the similarly titled Mary Poppins children's books by P. L. Travers and the 1964 Disney film. The stage production is a fusion of various elements from the two, including songs from the film. Mary Poppins tells the story of a magical nanny that looks after two children in London. Key extracts include Step in Time and A Spoonful of sugar. **Key Themes/Features:**   * Guardian Angels * Musicality * Use of Props * Call and Response   **Dance style:** Musical theatre/Tap dance |
| Key questions  |  |  | | --- | --- | | **Key question** | **Answer** | | **What is musical theatre?** | Musical theatre is less of a particular style, and more of a description of dancing that is rooted in the history of Broadway musicals. Relying heavily on a knowledge of ballet, tap, and jazz, musical theatre dancers are actors and place a high focus on musical interpretation. | | **What is a musical?** | A musical is a play or a film in which singing, acting, and dancing play an essential and equal part. Musicals developed from light opera in the early 20th century. | | **What are the key features of musical theatre?** | * A combination of singing, dancing and acting * Catchy Songs * Large casts * An extravagant set & costume * Narrative Structure | | **What are the areas of the stage?** |  | |