

## Subject: Performing Arts (Dance/Drama) Year 8 Curriculum Map 2024-2025

	Topics covered and <b>core knowledge and skills</b>	Links to careers	Resources Links
Half term 5	<p><b>Year 8 Dance and Drama: Commercial Dance</b></p> <p>In Year 8, pupils will dive into the energetic and expressive world of <b>Commercial Dance</b>, a contemporary style often seen in music videos, live concerts, and popular media. This unit will introduce pupils to the key features of commercial dance, blending styles such as hip hop, jazz, street, and pop to create bold, dynamic performances with a strong sense of style and attitude. Pupils will explore how commercial dance draws inspiration from current trends in music and fashion and learn how this genre is used to entertain, promote artists, and engage audiences through high-energy choreography and performance skills.</p> <p><b>Key activities will include:</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• <b>Introduction to Commercial Dance Styles:</b> Pupils will examine the influences behind commercial dance, exploring movements from street dance, hip hop, and jazz funk. They will watch and analyse performances by professional artists and choreographers to identify signature features of the style.</li> </ul>	For careers, <a href="#">click here</a>	Knowledge Organiser
Half term 6	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• <b>Technique and Foundations:</b> Pupils will learn the core techniques used in commercial dance, such as isolations, footwork, body control, and sharp arm movements. Focus will be placed on precision, rhythm, and coordination.</li> <li>• <b>Choreography and Rehearsal:</b> Working individually and in groups, pupils will learn set routines and be encouraged to develop their own choreography. They will learn how to create visually exciting sequences with levels, formations, and transitions.</li> <li>• <b>Musicality and Performance Skills:</b> Pupils will explore how movement connects with beats, lyrics, and mood. They will develop performance skills such as facial expression, confidence, and stage presence—key components of commercial dance.</li> <li>• <b>Dance for Camera:</b> As commercial dance is often created for music videos and social media, pupils will consider how dance translates on screen. They will have the opportunity to perform for camera, reflecting on how energy and precision come across in recorded performances.</li> <li>• <b>Styling and Identity:</b> Pupils will discuss how costume, image, and personal style contribute to a performer's identity in the commercial world. They will consider how to build a confident and expressive performance persona. The unit will culminate in a <b>Commercial Dance Showcase</b>, where pupils will perform either a teacher-led or self-devised routine in small groups. This might be presented live or filmed for a video performance project. Pupils will reflect on their growth in performance quality, technique, and creativity. By the end of the unit, pupils will have a solid understanding of the commercial dance style, improved technical and expressive skills, and the confidence to perform with personality and flair. This scheme encourages self-expression, creativity, and teamwork while connecting pupils with the vibrant world of contemporary dance in popular culture.</li> </ul>	For careers, <a href="#">click here</a>	Knowledge Organiser