



Updated July 2021	Subject Essential Knowledge – PE – Dance
Embedding our	Curricular Goal:
learning culture	EYFS: The main Early Years Outcomes covered in the Dance units are:
	• Moves freely and with pleasure and confidence in a range of ways, such as slithering, shuffling, rolling, crawling, walking, running, jumping,
Learning to Live	skipping, sliding and hopping. (PD – M&H 30-50) • Experiments with different ways of moving. (PD – M&H 40-60)
	• Children show good control and coordination in large and small movements. They move confidently in a range of ways, safely negotiating
	space. (PD – M&H ELG)
	• Enjoys joining in with dancing and ring games. (EAD – M & M 30-50)
	• Beginning to move rhythmically. (EAD – M & M 30-50)
	• Imitates movement in response to music. (EAD – M & M 30-50)
	• Begins to build a repertoire of songs and dances. (EAD – M & M 40-60)
Living to Love	• Children sing songs, make music and dance, and experiment with ways of changing them. (EAD – M & M ELG)
	• Developing preferences for forms of expression. (EAD – BI 30-50)
	• Uses movement to express feelings. (EAD – BI 30-50)
	• Creates movement in response to music. (EAD – BI 30-50)
	• Captures experiences and responses with a range of media, such as dance. (EAD – BI 30-50)
	• Initiates new combinations of movement and gesture in order to express and respond to feelings, ideas and experiences. (EAD – BI 40-60)
	• Children represent their own ideas, thoughts and feelings through dance. (EAD – BI ELG
Loving to Learn	
	KS1: Pupils should develop fundamental movement skills, become increasingly competent and confident and access a broad range of
	opportunities to extend their agility, balance and coordination, individually and with others. They should be able to engage in competitive (both
	against self and against others) and co-operative physical activities, in a range of increasingly challenging situations. Pupils should be taught to:
	• master basic movements including running, jumping, throwing and catching, as well as developing balance, agility and coordination, and begin
	to apply these in a range of activities;
	• perform dances using simple movement patterns

actions and sequences of understanding of how to should be taught to: • develop flexibility, stru • perform dances using	 KS2: Pupils should continue to apply and develop a broader range of skills, learning how to use them in different ways and to link them to make actions and sequences of movement. They should enjoy communicating, collaborating and competing with each other. They should develop an understanding of how to improve in different physical activities and sports and learn how to evaluate and recognise their own success. Pupils should be taught to: develop flexibility, strength, technique, control and balance [for example, through athletics and gymnastics]; perform dances using a range of movement patterns; compare their performances with previous ones and demonstrate improvement to achieve their personal best 								
Reception Essential Knowledge	Year 1 Essential Knowledge	Year 2 Essential Knowledge	Year 3 Essential Knowledge	Year 4 Essential Knowledge	Year 5 Essential Knowledge	Year 6 Essential Knowledge			
Describe how the body feels when still and when exercising.	Describe how the body feels before, during and after exercise. Carry and place equipment safely.	Recognise and describe how the body feels during and after different physical activities. Explain what they need to stay healthy.	Recognise and describe the effects of exercise on the body. Know the importance of strength and flexibility for physical activity. Explain why it is important to warm up and cool down.	Describe how the body reacts at different times and how this affects performance. Explain why exercise is good for your health. Know some reasons for warming up and cooling down	Know and understand the reasons for warming up and cooling down. Explain some safety principles when preparing for and during exercise.	understand the importance of warming up and cooling down. Carry out warm- ups and cool- downs safely and effectively. Understand why exercise is good for health, fitness and wellbeing. Know ways they can become healthier			
	Component 2: Dance Skills								
Join a range of different movements together.	Copy and repeat actions.	Copy, remember and repeat actions.	Begin to improvise with a partner to	Identify and repeat the movement patterns and	Identify and repeat the movement patterns and	Identify and repeat the movement patterns and			

Change the speed of their actions. Change the style of their movements. Create a short movement phrase which demonstrates their own ideas	Put a sequence of actions together to create a motif. V Vary the speed of their actions. Use simple choreographic devices such as unison, canon and mirroring. Begin to improvise independently to create a simple dance	Create a short motif inspired by a stimulus. Change the speed and level of their actions. Use simple choreographic devices such as unison, canon and mirroring. Use different transitions within a dance motif. Move in time to music. Improve the timing of their actions	create a simple dance. Create motifs from different stimuli. Begin to compare and adapt movements and motifs to create a larger sequence. Use simple dance vocabulary to compare and improve work. Perform with some awareness of rhythm and expression	actions of a chosen dance style. Compose a dance that reflects the chosen dance style. C Confidently improvise with a partner or on their own. Compose longer dance sequences in a small group. Demonstrate precision and some control in response to	actions of a chosen dance style. Compose individual, partner and group dances that reflect the chosen dance style. Show a change of pace and timing in their movements. Develop an awareness of their use of space. Demonstrate imagination and creativity in the movements they devise in response to	actions of a chosen dance style. Compose individual, partner and group dances that reflect the chosen dance style. Use dramatic expression in dance movements and motifs. Perform with confidence, using a range of movement patterns.
				stimuli. Begin to vary	response to stimuli.	Demonstrate strong and controlled
				dynamics and develop actions and motifs in response to stimuli.	Use transitions to link motifs smoothly together. Improvise with confidence, still demonstrating	movements throughout a dance sequence. Combine flexibility, techniques and

		Demonstrate	fluency across	movements to
		rhythm and	the sequence.	create a fluent
		spatial		sequence.
		awareness.	Ensure their	sequence.
		awareness.	actions fit the	Move
		Change parts of	rhythm of the	
		Change parts of	music.	appropriately and with the
		a dance as a	Madifi unanta af a	
		result of self-	Modify parts of a sequence as a	required style in
		evaluation.	result of self and	relation to the
			peer evaluation.	stimulus, e.g.
		Use simple	,	using various
		dance	Use more	levels, ways of
		vocabulary	complex dance	travelling and
		when	vocabulary to	motifs. Show a
		comparing and	compare and	change of pace
		improving work.	improve work	and timing in
				their
				movements.
				Move
				rhythmically and
				accurately in
				dance
				sequences.
				Improvise with
				confidence, still
				demonstrating
				fluency across
				their sequence.
				their sequence.
				Dense with
				Dance with
				fluency and

						control, linking
						all movements
						and ensuring
						that transitions
						flow.
						Demonstrate
						consistent
						precision when
						performing
						dance
						sequences.
						Modify some
						elements of a
						sequence as a
						result of self and
						peer evaluation.
						Use complex
						dance
						vocabulary to
						compare and
						improve work.
		Component 3:	Compete and Pe	rform		
Control my body	Perform using a	Perform	Develop the	Perform and	Perform own	Link actions to
when performing a	range of actions and	sequences of	quality of the	create	longer, more	create a complex
sequence of	body parts with some	their own	actions in their	sequences with	complex .	sequence using a
movements.	coordination.	composition with	performances.	fluency and	sequences in	full range of
	Begin to perform	coordination.	Perform learnt	expression.	time to music.	movement.
	learnt skills with		skills and		Consistently	
	some control	Perform learnt	techniques with	Perform and	perform and	Perform the
		skills with		apply skills and	apply skills and	sequence in time

		increasing control. Compete against self and others	control and confidence. Compete against self and others in a controlled manner.	techniques with control and accuracy.	techniques with accuracy and control.	to music. Perform and apply a variety of skills and techniques confidently, consistently and with precision.
Talk about what they	Watch and describe	Watch and	watch, describe	Watch, describe	Choose and use	Thoroughly
have done. Talk about what others have done	performances. Begin to say how they could improve	describe performances, and use what they see to improve their own performance. Talk about the differences between their work and that of others.	and evaluate the effectiveness of a performance. Describe how their performance has improved over time	and evaluate the effectiveness of performances, giving ideas for improvements. Modify their use of skills or techniques to achieve a better result.	criteria to evaluate own and others' performance. Explain why they have used particular skills or techniques, and the effect they have had on their performance.	evaluate their own and others' work, suggesting thoughtful and appropriate improvements.