

## Why try Dance?

Dance at Millfield encourages expression and creativity whilst developing physical technique, co-ordination and fitness. The programme offers a broad choice of styles, with opportunities for performance, collaboration and graded examinations. The sessions cater for dancers of all levels and abilities within a supportive and welcoming environment.

## Who can do it?

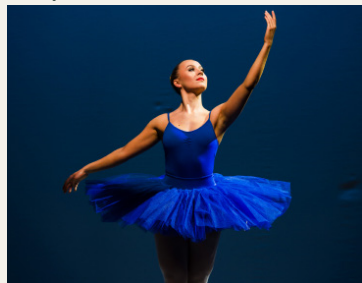
All students are able to take part in dance classes as part of the sport or co-curricular programme. The timetable comprises of over 30 different classes each week, including Contemporary, Ballet, Modern, Commercial, Jazz and Tap sessions, set according to ability and experience. We offer a full Classical Ballet programme, including RAD Ballet exams from Grade 5 upwards. ISTD Modern and Tap exam courses are also offered, as are the new Rambert Contemporary Dance Grades. Lessons range from beginners to advance level. The wide choice of sessions ensure students of all standards are catered for.

The dance teaching team is made up of five specialist dance teachers and six coaches, providing a wide range of expertise. The team prepare students for exam work, take junior and senior dance classes, and choreograph for dance and musical theatre productions. Each year we celebrate the work of the dancers in an annual large-scale dance show, as well as offering Classical Ballet evenings, termly Tea and Dance celebrations, and a summer performance programme during Arts Week.



## Highlights from 2019-20

- The Dance Show *City Lights*
- The inaugural Evening of Classical Ballet *La Petite Danseuse de Degas*
- Six students gained distinctions in RAD Ballet examinations
- Partnership with Rambert Dance Company and School as part of the pilot scheme for Contemporary Dance Grades, now fully accredited and approved for 2020
- Workshops with Motionhouse Dance Theatre learning their duo, Gravity
- GCSE Dance beginning in September 2020



**Head of Dance:** Rhian Fox  
Email: fox.r@millfieldschool.com  
**Head of Classical Ballet:** Juliet Peach  
**Dance Instructors:** Diane Court, Daisy Shimmin,  
Miranda Speed, Katey Leader



## Performance programme

We have three elite performance groups, Bazique, La Volta and Veleta, with entry by audition each September. These groups develop our specialist, full time dancers in dance technique, choreography and performance. Dancers who wish to pursue a career in Dance can also apply to be a part of 'Aspire', a specialist vocational group for our students wishing to pursue a career in Dance, offering wider performance opportunities and focussed elite training.

Upper Sixth ballet dancer Sophie Glover scored a perfect technical mark in the RAD (Royal Academy of Dance) Grade 8 Ballet Examination Award in only two terms, an exceptional result. Sophie passed the exam with a Distinction, with a rare perfect technical mark out of 10 in one of the four variations that she had to perform.

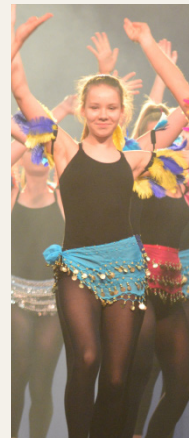


The aspiring lawyer has worked for the past year to undertake the exam, which provides a broad practice dance education and develops technical, musical and performance skills.

*"The dance community for me has become integral. You create a tightly knit dance community where you receive great amounts of support—especially settling in as a boarder."* Sophie Glover

## Success stories and future stars

Sophie Holmes, Upper Sixth, is one of our talented dancers. She joined as a Dance Scholar in Year 9 and went straight into our high-performance dance group 'Lavolta' and Dance Company 'Aspire'. Now part of 'Bazique', Sophie studies around 12 hours of dance a week which includes Advanced 1 Modern, Intermediate Tap, Advanced Foundation Ballet,



Jazz and Commercial. Sophie excels in Contemporary Dance and through 'Aspire' performs and represents the school at external dance events.

*"Since joining Millfield, the Dance Department has been very welcoming. Over the years I feel I have really improved my dance technique as well as my confidence."*

Sophie Holmes