



Centre for
Advanced Training
Northern School of
Contemporary Dance

Talent Spotting Guide

Centre for Advanced Training in Dance

On an annual basis Northern School of Contemporary Dance deliver free dance workshops in youth, community & school settings across Yorkshire to talent spot potential young dancers to join our scheme. In 2021 we are changing the format of our delivery in the light of the Covid 19 pandemic.

New delivery options:

- Pre recorded class resource to use independently or as part of a larger dance workshop package
- A virtual workshop delivered from NSCD into your setting (using the above pre recording to support delivery)
- A face to face workshop in your setting



Talent Spotting

During our face-to-face workshops, our artists can easily offer 'spotted cards' to those students who we would like to invite to our stage 1 auditions for the Centre for Advanced Training. Unfortunately, this is not so easy for virtual or pre recorded workshops.

How can you help

- Understand the criteria we look for when talent spotting students for the scheme
- Use the resources from our website (or leaflets) to pass information onto relevant students
- Support us in accessing those gifted and talented students & their journey towards gaining a place on CAT.



How can we help you?

As a thank you for helping to support our outreach & recruitment for the CAT scheme we will be offering a free CPD session for dance teachers to access.

What are the next steps

- Contact us to book a workshop or to have access to the free pre recorded class
- Download & read the CAT scheme criteria
- Let us know at cat@nscd.ac.uk if you have any queries



Audition Criteria

Dance students should show evidence (as appropriate to their age, experience and dance style) of exceptional **potential** and commitment:

Physicality, facility and technical skills

- Fundamental body skills (e.g., co-ordination, flexibility, mobility, elevation, balance and control, strength, placement and line)
- Ability to perceive and respond to rhythmic patterns, musical phrasing and timing
- Movement memory
- Capacity to pick up dance material
- Spatial awareness
- Response to feedback given in class



Performance qualities and skills

- Expressiveness / understanding of movement qualities / sense of style
- Presence / projection / focus
- Readiness to engage in the material and to respond to performance aspects emphasised
- Capacity to sustain concentration



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Creativity

- Imaginative response to tasks and the ability to develop ideas through movement
- Able to take risks when working creatively; questioning and curious



Approach to working in dance


- Ability to stay on task /concentrate /focus
- Engagement in all aspects of dance activities
- Ability to reflect on personal practice
- Openness to change
- Capacity to work in co-operation with others (where group task is set)
- Response to feedback
- Interest in dance activities / performing / watching dance






Thank You

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 [www.nscd.ac.uk /cat](http://www.nscd.ac.uk/cat)