

Course Fact File

CENTRE FOR ADVANCED TRAINING

Entry 2022



Department
for Education

Northern School of
Contemporary Dance

CENTRE for
ADVANCED
TRAINING

Award: There is no formal qualification; however the Centres for Advanced Training are recognised by dance HE and FE providers as pre vocational training.

Location: Northern School of Contemporary Dance (NSCD), Chapeltown, Leeds.

Duration: 1-5 years dependent on age and progress

Academic year: September 2022 - July 2023

Entry requirements:

Entry is through successful audition and interview. Candidates will have attended an Taster Day as part of the audition process. No formal qualifications are required.

Course overview

The curriculum at NSCD is intended to give students a strong basic grounding in technical and creative skills, as well as an introduction to the wider dance profession; it includes tuition in five key areas:

- Technique
- Creative dance and choreography
- Performance
- Dancers' health and wellbeing
- Cultural activities such as theatre and gallery trips, workshops and volunteering opportunities

Weekly classes

Our Centre for Advanced Training students attend a minimum of 8 hours per week outside of school hours:

- 2 classes in the evening mid-week (ballet and contemporary technique)
- 3 classes on a Saturday (contemporary technique, creative / choreography and complementary study)

Each class is 1.5 hours long and are designed to ensure students gain a strong grounding in contemporary dance. Our technique classes are designed to help our young dancers develop physical skills in alignment, placement, strength, flexibility and musicality. The complementary dance study sessions include body conditioning, somatic practice, Yoga and Pilates. A range of creative workshops, improvisation, contact work and choreography classes give students the chance to work with their peers and to express their own artistic choices through movement.

Intensive courses

Outside term-time students attend intensive weekend sessions, and Easter and Summer workshops that include working with professional dance and theatre artists, widening their exposure to current practices and artistic thinking.

Performances

As part of CAT students attend live theatre performances to see some of the UK's leading student and professional dance companies in action. Students also have the opportunity to work with professional choreographers to create pieces of repertory to perform at the End of Year Show and at regional youth dance platforms.

Teaching and learning

Students are taught through a combination of practical and theoretical classes. We encourage students to reflect on their understanding of topics covered through group discussion and feedback sessions.

Included within the course is a bespoke individual training plan which is to set targets, advise on progression and support your personal tutorials.

Teaching staff

Dance students at NSCD are taught by an experienced teaching team whose expertise and knowledge are closely matched to the content of the course. The team includes tutors who are dance artists in their own right and professional practitioners with industry experience.

Technique classes are supported by live musicians.

Assessment and Feedback

NSCD employs a wide variety of assessment methods including formative, continuous and summative assessment. Assessment evidence is collected through:

- Continuous and summative assessments in technique modules, creative and performance modules including rehearsal processes
- Written /verbal project reports and evaluations / reflections
- Individual and small group verbal presentations

Students receive ongoing feedback in practical classes and through the tutorial system.

Achievement is measured against module assessment criteria and in accordance with programme and module learning outcomes. Students must meet the specific attendance requirements for the programme.

Student support

The School provides students with a comprehensive range of support mechanisms to help them with their training. All students have access to support and guidance from tutors who maintain an overview of students' progress and development.

Our team offer additional support in the following areas:

- Pastoral care & counselling services
- Injury prevention and support
- Finance Support

Cost and financial support

The DfE offer grants which are means-tested based on family's annual earnings per tax year, with deductions and allowances made for dependents in accordance with their guidelines. For more information please follow www.nationaldancecats.co.uk/what-are-cats/funding/

Sources of financial support

If you receive funding from the DfE you may be eligible to apply for additional benefits, such as travel and equipment bursaries.

Further Questions

If you have any further questions please see the Frequently Asked Questions page on the national dance CATs website www.nationaldancecats.co.uk/what-are-cats/frequently-asked-questions/

For any further questions or information requests please contact: Rose Chadwick—0113 2193025