

FINAL REPORT

(i) HOW THE NEED WAS IDENTIFIED

The need for a specialist dance teacher has been identified within the school development plan and the required course to be undertaken was Teacher Training in Dance. The need was identified to enhance the opportunity for practical learners and to meet the ever-changing needs of our pupils. Some of the most talented students are leaving school with a range of experiences in dance but with little tangible in terms of results to show for their extra-curricular effort.

(ii) OUTCOMES IN TERMS OF IMPROVED PRACTICE BY THE TEACHER

As a PE teacher with a specialism in dance it was important that I, as a professional, embarked upon further study to broaden and enhance my own development. The outcomes in terms of improved practice will therefore fulfil the criteria of the GCSE in Performing Arts, Dance. I will be equipped to deliver the practical component of the course in the areas of contemporary, jazz, ballet and hip hop dance, which totals 80% of the course. The remaining 20% is the theory component and the course highlighted this area in great detail through numerous seminars.

(iii) BENEFITS IN TERMS OF IMPROVEMENTS IN PUPILS' LEARNING

From a curriculum perspective there is a need to provide students who work hard to develop a portfolio of dance disciplines and techniques to be rewarded within the curriculum for their efforts. Pupils' learning will be enhanced as they will develop an understanding and appreciation of dance styles. Understand aesthetic and artistic sensibility to dance works and will be able to perform, choreograph and appreciate dance. Pupils will be able to create dances and reflect upon achievement throughout this process in facilitating both improvement and success.

(iv) HOW SUCCESS OF THE PROFESSIONAL DEVELOPMENT WILL BE MEASURED

I will be able to evaluate the success of my professional development by the number of students who choose it as a pathway towards further study and whose options after GCSE are enhanced by having studied this subject. Secondly I will be able to monitor my own development from having undertaken such a course as the level of confidence I have obtained will assist me in the delivery of this new curricular innovation.

(v) HOW THE SKILLS AND EXPERIENCES GAINED WILL BE SHARED WITH OTHER TEACHERS

There is a culture within the school of sharing good practice and it would be my plan to cascade train the other members of the PE department, particularly within Boys' PE to ensure there is an equitable gender balance within the Dance Department. It would be my aim to embark upon an educational focus for the boys to develop dance skills and to maintain and develop the girls' standard of dance at St. Paul's. In the future it would be anticipated that this department will develop beyond a one teacher scenario

and to this end, I would ensure that any training for a colleague could be carried out within the school with myself as facilitator and instructor.

(vi) REFLECTION ON THE VALUE AND EFFECTIVENESS OF THE ACTIVITY.

I studied a structured course and received a nationally accepted certificate in dance. Furthermore, I benefited from the discussions and endeavours of my peers. I enjoyed the role of choreographer and learned from the experience of being part of someone else's vision of dance. Through this experience I learned about such aspects as the history of dance, dance notation and anatomy and physiology. I also received the opportunity to teach adults of all abilities and how to maintain control and gain confidence to keep order within the class. Overall, I gained an excellent insight into the teaching of practical and theory components.

(vii) FUTURE PLANS

In the future it would be anticipated that I would introduce A Level Performing Arts Dance to further enhance the GCSE. This would be an excellent pathway as my students would have the choice of studying this subject to degree level. Furthermore, within the collegiate of the area where I teach, I would retain close links with our sister school and am constantly in contact with the PE teachers. I would share my expertise and gained skills.