

## National Unit Specification: general information

**UNIT** Dance: Scottish (Higher)

**NUMBER** D72V 12

**COURSE** Dance Practice (Higher)

### SUMMARY

This unit is designed to provide candidates with the opportunity to improve existing Scottish dance skills and techniques in Country or Highland or Step and perform acquired skills and techniques in choreographed presentations.

### OUTCOMES

- 1 Demonstrate Scottish dance skills and techniques.
- 2 Demonstrate tutor-taught Scottish dance sequences that incorporate skills and techniques.
- 3 Apply skills and techniques to the presentation and performance of Scottish dance.

### RECOMMENDED ENTRY

Access to this unit is at the discretion of the centre, although candidates should have previous experience in Scottish dance skills and techniques. This may be evidenced by the following SQA unit: Dance: Scottish (D72V 11) at Intermediate 2 level or equivalent.

### CREDIT VALUE

0.5 Credits at Higher.

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### Administrative Information

**Superclass:** LB

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## **CORE SKILLS**

There are no complete core skills or core skills components embedded within this unit.

Information on the automatic certification of any core skills in this unit is published in *Automatic Certification of Core Skills in National Qualifications* (SQA, 1999).

## **National Unit Specification: statement of standards**

### **UNIT**      Dance: Scottish (Higher)

Acceptable performance in this unit will be the satisfactory achievement of the standards set out in this part of the unit specification. All sections of the statement of standards are mandatory and cannot be altered without reference to the Scottish Qualifications Authority.

#### **OUTCOME 1**

Demonstrate Scottish dance skills and techniques.

##### **Performance criteria**

- a) Concentration and focus are maintained effectively.
- b) The qualities required in executing dance skills and techniques are demonstrated effectively through use of the body.
- c) The control required in executing dance skills and techniques is demonstrated accurately through use of the body.
- d) The co-ordination required in executing dance skills and techniques is demonstrated accurately through use of the body.
- e) Skills and techniques are demonstrated in directed classes.
- f) Skills and techniques are shown in designated tasks.

##### **Evidence requirements**

Practical evidence that the candidate has achieved all the performance criteria through accurate physical demonstration.

#### **OUTCOME 2**

Demonstrate tutor-taught Scottish dance sequences that incorporate skills and techniques.

##### **Performance criteria**

- a) A composed dance is learned and recreated accurately.
- b) Projection and style are maintained effectively.
- c) Phrasing, sympathy and understanding are demonstrated effectively in response to the music/accompaniment.
- d) Dance steps and movements are reproduced accurately.
- e) Formations and handing are reproduced accurately.

##### **Evidence requirements**

A tutor-taught dance piece lasting a minimum of 2 minutes is learned and reproduced accurately showing that the candidate has achieved all performance criteria.

## **National Unit Specification: statement of standards (cont)**

**UNIT**            Dance: Scottish (Higher)

### **OUTCOME 3**

Apply skills and techniques to the presentation and performance of Scottish dance.

#### **Performance criteria**

- a)        Skills and techniques are integrated with expression to communicate the context of the work.
- b)        Spatial awareness is demonstrated clearly.
- c)        Projection and style are maintained effectively.

#### **Evidence requirements**

A set technical study lasting a minimum of 2 minutes is learned and reproduced accurately showing that the candidate has achieved all performance criteria.

## National Unit Specification: support notes

**UNIT**            Dance: Scottish (Higher)

This part of the unit specification is offered as guidance. The support notes are not mandatory.

While the exact time allocated to this unit is at the discretion of the centre, the notional design length is 20 hours.

### **GUIDANCE ON THE CONTENT AND CONTEXT FOR THIS UNIT**

On completion of this unit candidates should have technical competence in performing dances in one of the following areas of Scottish Dance:

- Scottish Country dance
- Scottish Highland dance
- Scottish Step dance

Candidates should understand the sequence of a Scottish dance class at this level and be able to transfer its components to performance.

The skills and techniques required in this unit should include:

#### **Country dance skills and techniques required at Intermediate 2 level:**

Show Position of the feet – 1<sup>st</sup>, 2<sup>nd</sup>, 3<sup>rd</sup> and 4<sup>th</sup>

Dance Rhythmically and accurately in jig and reel time

- Skip-change of step
- Slipping step
- Step up and down
- Pas de Basque

Formations

- Turn Partner with Right and Left Hand
- Lead down the middle and up
- Crossing and Casting
- Casting Down and Up
- Hands across and back
- Hands Round and Back
- Rights and Lefts
- Figure of Eight Across the set
- Promenade for two couples
- Advance and Retire
- Allemande
- Set and Cross Over
- Set and Cast Off
- Set and Turn Partner with One and Two Hands
- Pousette
- Ladies Chain
- Promenade for 3 Couples

## National Unit Specification: support notes (cont)

**UNIT** Dance: Scottish (Higher)

- Figure of 8 on the side
- Reel of 3
- Set to Corners

### Country Dance skills and techniques required at Higher level:

Jig and Reel Time as in Intermediate 2 and

- Strathspey travelling step
- Strathspey setting step

Formations

In addition to Intermediate 2 formations

- Set and turn corners followed by reel of three
- balance in line
- turn corners and partners
- grand chain for three couples
- grand chain for four couples
- double triangles

### Highland dance skills and techniques required at Intermediate 2 level:

Line of Direction

- First Position
- Second Position
- Second Aerial Position
- Third Position
- Third Aerial Position
- Third Rear Aerial Position
- Third Crossed Position
- Fourth Position
- Fourth Aerial Position
- Fourth Rear Position
- Fourth Rear Aerial Position
- Fourth Intermediate Position
- Fourth Intermediate Aerial Position
- Fourth Intermediate Rear Aerial Position
- Fourth Opposite Fifth Position
- Fifth Position

Arm Positions

- Grouping of Fingers
- First Position
- Second Position
- Third Position
- Fourth Position
- Fifth Position

## National Unit Specification: support notes (cont)

**UNIT** Dance: Scottish (Higher)

Head Positions

- First Position
- Second Position

Basic Movements:

- The Bow
- Hop
- Spring
- Step
- Assemble
- Disassemble

### Highland dance skills and techniques required at Higher level:

In addition to enhanced Intermediate 2 technique:

- Change
- Brush
- Shake
- Pas de basque
- Open Pas De Basque
- High Cut
- Balance
- Travelling Balance
- Rock
- Shedding
- Toe and Heel
- Back Stepping
- Shuffle
- Ho Brush Beat
- Shake Down

### GUIDANCE ON LEARNING AND TEACHING APPROACHES FOR THIS UNIT

Teachers and lecturers may find the following helpful in teaching this unit:

- Classes
- Workshops
- Visits to performances
- Specialist lectures/demonstrations
- Videos
- Handouts
- Specialist packs

Reference to the following books and videos may be useful in teaching this unit:

BOOKS:

- The Manual of Scottish Country Dancing, Royal Scottish Country Dance Society
- Highland Dancing – The Official Textbook of the Scottish Official Board of Highland Dance

- Book of Graded Scottish Country Dances, Royal Scottish Country Dance Society.



## National Unit Specification: support notes (cont)

**UNIT** Dance: Scottish (Higher)

**VIDEO:**

- Jim MacLeod's Non Stop Ceilidh Dancing – 23 Scottish Country, Highland and Step Dances available from Dance Books – see below.

All books and videos available from:

Dance Books Ltd, The Old Bakery, 4 Lenton St, Alton, Hampshire, GU34 1HG

Website: [www.dancebooks.co.uk](http://www.dancebooks.co.uk)

**CASSETTES AND CD'S ALSO AVAILABLE FROM:**

- The Royal Scottish Country Dance Society, 12 Coates Crescent EH3 7AF
- Edinburgh's Telford College

### **GUIDANCE ON APPROACHES TO ASSESSMENT FOR THIS UNIT**

In order to achieve this unit candidates are required to present sufficient evidence that they have met all the performance criteria for each outcome within the range specified. Details of these requirements are given for each outcome. An integrative approach to assessment is encouraged. For example: Outcomes 2 and 3 may be integrated in the same 2 minute dance piece. Accurate records should be kept of the candidate's performance in each outcome.

Video evidence should be supported by checklists and/or marking schemes. These records should be kept and made available for the External Examiner.

### **SPECIAL NEEDS**

This unit specification is intended to ensure that there are no artificial barriers to learning or assessment. Special needs of individual candidates should be taken into account when planning learning experiences, selecting assessment instruments or considering special alternative outcomes for units. For information on these, please refer to the SQA document *Guidance on Special Assessment and Certification Arrangements for Candidates with Special Needs/Candidates whose First Language is not English* (SQA, 1998).