



Key information for the Dance Stage 6 syllabus

- Schools and teachers use syllabuses to develop educational programs for students. The [Dance Stage 6 Syllabus \(2009\)](#) requires students to study dance as an artform with core studies in the components of performance, composition and appreciation. In addition to the core topics, students will be required to complete a Major Study option for the HSC. Students may choose from Performance, Composition, Appreciation or Dance and Technology.
- Dance Stage 6 specific course requirements are outlined in the [Dance Stage 6 Syllabus \(2009\)](#). Preliminary and HSC Dance are to be taught over 120 indicative hours each. Further information on the weightings of components can be found on pp11-12 of the [Dance Stage 6 syllabus \(2009\)](#).
- Schools are required to develop an assessment program for each Year 11 and Year 12 course. School-based assessment requirements are outlined at [Assessment and reporting in Dance Stage 6](#).
- NESA's list of course prescriptions for the HSC course can be found at [Course prescriptions for Dance Stage 6 2026-2027](#). This list may be changed in total or in part every 3 to 6 years.

HSC Examinations

- Details on the HSC Dance examination can be found at [Assessment and reporting in Dance Stage 6](#). The HSC Dance examination consists of both practical and written examinations. Candidates must complete all Core examinations and select one of the Major Study options.
- Past HSC papers are a useful resource to help students to become familiar with the examination format and structure. Past papers for HSC Dance can be found at [Dance HSC exam pack](#). Practical examination requirements and format can be found at [Submitted works advice](#).
- HSC standards materials by NESA provide a collection of resources of sample responses typical of work at the boundaries between HSC bands. The Dance Stage 6 HSC standards materials can be found on the NESA webpages [Dance Stage 6 HSC standards materials](#).

Support materials

The Creative arts curriculum team provides resources to support NSW teachers in the implementation of the Dance Stage 6 (2009) syllabus and can be located on the [Dance 11-12 webpage](#). Here you will find sample scope and sequences, sample, sample assessment schedules and tasks and a range of teaching resources, including [Assessment in the HSC](#).

NESA also has a range of support materials on the [Dance Stage 6 syllabus \(2009\)](#) webpage.

Professional learning

There are a range of 'on demand' professional learning resources to support the implementation of the Dance Stage 6 syllabus including:

- [Stage 6 Dance - Preliminary MyPL](#)
- [Stage 6 Dance - HSC MyPL](#)
- [Stage 6 Dance - Approaches and insights MyPL](#)
- [Dance 7-12](#) Statewide staffroom recordings and support
- [Juliet and Romeo](#) support for HSC Core Appreciation
- [Yuldea by Bangarra Dance Theatre](#)
- [Assessment in the HSC](#)
- [Writing about dance in stage 6](#)

We also offer a range of live online and face to face professional learning events throughout the year. To view any upcoming events go to the [Creative arts statewide staffroom](#).

General HSC information

- The [NSW Education Standards Authority \(NESA\)](#) oversees the Higher School Certificate (HSC), offering resources for students on exam preparation, course selection, and academic integrity.
- The [NESA HSC glossary](#) provides teachers with guidance on how to use key terms consistently, ensuring students understand their meanings and apply them appropriately across various subjects for effective exam preparation.
- The NESA [HSC assessment moderation](#) process ensures fairness by adjusting school assessment marks based on exam results, making them comparable across schools.
- The [ACE rules](#) outline HSC school-based assessment integrity, task development, marking, appeals, and record-keeping. They cover malpractice policies, illness/misadventure procedures, task notifications, ranking, and restrictions on reporting final marks, ensuring compliance with NESA's assessment standards.
- HSC monitoring advice, Section 1.6 outlines HSC record-keeping requirements, including teaching programs, assessment documentation, interventions and work samples. Visit [Stage 6 - monitoring implementation and support](#) for more information.
- School-based assessment for the HSC contributes to a student's final mark and is designed to evaluate students' understanding and skills based on syllabus outcomes.

Contact us

If you would like further information or support, please email creativearts7-12@det.nsw.edu.au or reach out to our team via the [Creative arts Statewide Staffroom](#). You can also subscribe to our [Creative Arts Newsletter](#).

