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|  | Years 7 and 8 band plan — Australian Curriculum: DanceOverview for planning with the Australian Curriculum: The Arts |

This band plan has been developed in consultation with the Curriculum into the Classroom project team.

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| School name:  |
| Australian Curriculum: The Arts Band: Years 7–8 Arts subject: Dance |
| Identify curriculum[[1]](#footnote-1) | **Course organisation** | The Arts have the capacity to engage, inspire and enrich all students, exciting the imagination and encouraging them to reach their creative and expressive potential. In the Australian Curriculum, the Arts is a learning area that draws together related but distinct art forms. While these art forms have close relationships and are often used in interrelated ways, each involves different approaches to arts practices and critical and creative thinking that reflect distinct bodies of knowledge, understanding and skills. The curriculum examines past, current and emerging arts practices in each art form across a range of cultures and places.The Australian Curriculum: The Arts covers each of the five Arts subjects — Dance, Drama, Media Arts, Music and Visual Arts — across bands of year levels:* Foundation to Year 2[[2]](#footnote-2)
* Years 3 and 4
* Years 5 and 6
* Years 7 and 8
* Years 9 and 10.

Each subject focuses on its own practices, terminology and unique ways of looking at the world. Together they provide opportunities for students to learn how to create, design, represent, communicate and share their imagined and conceptual ideas, emotions, observations and experiences.In Dance, students use the body to communicate and express meaning through purposeful movement. Dance practice integrates choreography, performance, and appreciation of and responses to dance and dance making.In addition to the overarching aims of the Australian Curriculum: The Arts, Dance knowledge, understanding and skills ensure that, individually and collaboratively, students develop:* body awareness and technical and expressive skills to communicate through movement confidently, creatively and intelligently
* choreographic and performance skills and appreciation of their own and others’ dances
* aesthetic, artistic and cultural understanding of dance in past and contemporary contexts as choreographers, performers and audiences
* respect for and knowledge of the diverse purposes, traditions, histories and cultures of dance by making and responding as active participants and informed audiences.

Content descriptions in each Arts subject reflect the interrelated strands of Making and Responding. * *Making* includes learning about and using knowledge, skills, techniques, processes, materials and technologies to explore arts practices and make artworks that communicate ideas and intentions.
* *Responding* includes exploring, responding to, analysing and interpreting artworks.

In the Arts, students learn as artists and audience through the intellectual, emotional and sensory experiences of the Arts. They acquire knowledge, skills and understanding specific to the Arts subjects and develop critical understanding that informs decision making and aesthetic choices. Through the Arts, students learn to express their ideas, thoughts and opinions as they discover and interpret the world. The Arts band plans are organised to:* align with the Australian Curriculum: The Arts
* identify opportunities for teaching, learning, assessment and feedback, organised in units according to band levels, and developed using the Australian Curriculum: Dance content descriptions and achievement standards.

The Arts band plans provide flexibility to:* make decisions about how the subject will be implemented, based on the local context and needs of students in schools
* implement each of the Australian Curriculum: The Arts subjects at least once per band.
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|  | **Phase curriculum focus** | **Curriculum focus: Years 7 to 10** As students move into adolescence, they undergo a range of important physical, cognitive, emotional and social changes. Students often begin to question established conventions, practices and values. Their interests extend well beyond their own communities and they begin to develop concerns about wider issues. Students in this age range increasingly look for and value learning that is perceived to be relevant, is consistent with personal goals, and/or leads to important outcomes. Increasingly they are able to work with more abstract concepts and consider increasingly complex ideas. They are keen to explore the nature of evidence and the contestability of ideas, debating alternative answers and interpretations.In these years, learning in the Arts enables students to explore and question their own immediate experience and their understanding of the wider world. Learning through and about the Arts enables students to build on their own experiences and dispositions. Students explore and engage with artworks made by others. They make their own artworks drawing on their developing knowledge, understanding and skills.Students’ understanding of sustainability is progressively developed. They explore how the Arts are used to communicate about sustainability and also learn about sustainability of practices in the Arts.Students learn that Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander Peoples have converted oral records to other technologies. As they explore forms, students learn that over time there has been development of different traditional and contemporary styles. Students explore Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander art forms that are publicly available for broader participation in their community. Students may also extend their cultural expression with appropriate community consultation and endorsement. They identify and explore the social relationships that have developed between Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander Peoples and other cultures in Australia, reflected in developments of forms and styles in the Arts.Through the Australian Curriculum: The Arts, students in Years 7 to 10 pursue broad questions such as: What meaning is intended in an artwork? What does the audience understand from this artwork? What is the cultural context of the artwork and of the audience engaging with it? What key beliefs and values are reflected in artworks and how did artists influence societies of their time? How do audiences perceive and understand artworks? What does the advancement of technology mean to the presentation of, and audience engagement with, different artworks? This curriculum also provides opportunities to engage students through contexts that are meaningful and relevant to them and through exploration of past and present debates. |
| **Band description** | In Years 7 and 8, learning in Dance builds on the experience of the previous band. It involves students making and responding to dance independently, and with their classmates, teachers and communities. They explore dance as an art form through choreography, performance and appreciation.Students build on their awareness of the body through body part articulation. They extend their understanding and use of space, time, dynamics and relationships including performing in groups, spatial relationships and using interaction to communicate their choreographic intention. They extend the combinations of fundamental movement skills to explore dance styles. They extend technical skills from the previous band increasing their confidence, accuracy, clarity of movement and projection.As they experience dance, students draw on dances from a range of cultures, times and locations. They explore the dance and influences of Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander Peoples, and of the Asia region. Students learn about style and choreographic intent in Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander dances, and how these dances communicate social contexts and relationships. Students learn about sustainability through The Arts and sustainability of practices in The Arts.As they make and respond to dance, students explore meaning and interpretation, forms and elements, and social, cultural and historical contexts of dance. They evaluate choreographers’ intentions and expressive skills in dances they view and perform.Students understand that safe dance practices underlie all experiences in the study of dance. They perform within their own body capabilities and work safely in groups. |
| **Achievement standard** | By the end of Year 8, students [identify](http://www.australiancurriculum.edu.au/glossary/popup?a=F10AS&t=Identify) and [analyse](http://www.australiancurriculum.edu.au/glossary/popup?a=F10AS&t=Analyse) the elements of dance, choreographic devices and production elements in dances in different styles and [apply](http://www.australiancurriculum.edu.au/glossary/popup?a=F10AS&t=Apply) this knowledge in dances they make and perform. They [evaluate](http://www.australiancurriculum.edu.au/glossary/popup?a=F10AS&t=Evaluate) how they and others from different cultures, times and places communicate meaning and intent through dance.Students choreograph dances demonstrating selection and organisation of the elements of dance, choreographic devices and form to communicate choreographic intent. They perform with confidence and clarity, dances which they choreograph and learn with technical and expressive skills appropriate to the dance style. |
| **Content descriptions** | For this unit:* Combine [elements of dance](http://www.australiancurriculum.edu.au/glossary/popup?a=TheArts&t=elements+of+dance) and improvise by making literal movements into abstract movements [(ACADAM013)](http://www.australiancurriculum.edu.au/curriculum/contentdescription/ACADAM013)
* Develop their choreographic intent by applying the [elements of dance](http://www.australiancurriculum.edu.au/glossary/popup?a=TheArts&t=elements+of+dance) to select and organise movement [(ACADAM014)](http://www.australiancurriculum.edu.au/curriculum/contentdescription/ACADAM014)
* [Practise](http://www.australiancurriculum.edu.au/glossary/popup?a=TheArts&t=practise) and refine [technical skills](http://www.australiancurriculum.edu.au/glossary/popup?a=TheArts&t=technical+skills) in style-specific techniques [(ACADAM015)](http://www.australiancurriculum.edu.au/curriculum/contentdescription/ACADAM015)
* Structure dances using [choreographic devices](http://www.australiancurriculum.edu.au/glossary/popup?a=TheArts&t=choreographic+devices) and form [(ACADAM016)](http://www.australiancurriculum.edu.au/curriculum/contentdescription/ACADAM016)
* Rehearse and perform focusing on [expressive skills](http://www.australiancurriculum.edu.au/glossary/popup?a=TheArts&t=expressive+skills) appropriate to [style](http://www.australiancurriculum.edu.au/glossary/popup?a=TheArts&t=style) and/or choreographic intent [(ACADAM017)](http://www.australiancurriculum.edu.au/curriculum/contentdescription/ACADAM017)
* Analyse how choreographers use [elements of dance](http://www.australiancurriculum.edu.au/glossary/popup?a=TheArts&t=elements+of+dance) and production elements to communicate intent [(ACADAR018)](http://www.australiancurriculum.edu.au/curriculum/contentdescription/ACADAR018)
* Identify and connect specific features and purposes of dance from contemporary and past times to explore [viewpoints](http://www.australiancurriculum.edu.au/glossary/popup?a=TheArts&t=viewpoints) and enrich their dance-making, starting with dance in Australia and including dance of Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander Peoples [(ACADAR019)](http://www.australiancurriculum.edu.au/curriculum/contentdescription/ACADAR019)
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| Teaching and learning | **Viewpoints[[3]](#footnote-3)**👁 | The Australian Curriculum: The Arts outlines a range of viewpoints — a collection of perspectives, lenses or frames through which artworks can be explored and interpreted. These perspectives, lenses and frames include the contexts, knowledge and evaluations students consider when both making and responding to artworks. Learning in and through Dance enhances students’ knowledge and understanding of diverse cultures and contexts and develops their personal, social and cultural identity.In both Making and Responding, students learn that meanings can be generated from different viewpoints and that these shift according to different world encounters. As students make, investigate or critique dances as choreographers, dancers and audiences, they may ask and answer questions to consider the choreographers’ and dancers’ meanings and the audiences’ interpretations. Meanings and interpretations are informed by an understanding of how the elements of dance, materials, skills and processes are used in differing social, cultural and historical contexts. These questions provide the basis for making informed critical judgments about their own dance and the dance they see as audiences. The complexity and sophistication of such questions will develop across Foundation to Year 10. In the later years, students will consider the interests and concerns of choreographers, dancers and audiences regarding philosophies and ideologies, critical theories, institutions and psychology.Key questions: Years 7 and 8* Context as artist and audience:
* What is the social and cultural context of dance and what does it signify?
* How do different audiences respond to dance?
* How do social, cultural and historical forces influence dance ideas?
* What are the appropriate protocols for viewing Aboriginal dance and Torres Strait Islander dance and other culturally specific performance?
* Knowledge as artist and audience:
* How do people manipulate elements of dance and choreographic devices to express choreographic intent, whether literal or abstract?
* What choreographic forms are used by choreographers?
* What production elements are used in dance pieces?
* What are the characteristics of different styles of dance?
* Evaluations and judgments as artist and audience:
* What technical and expressive skills characterise successful and strong performance and choreography?
* How do the choreographic choices support the realisation of choreographic intent?
* Why does the same piece look different when different dancers perform it?
* Why do you prefer particular styles of dance?
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| **Unit overview** The Australian Curriculum assumes that students in Years 7 and 8 will have the opportunity to experience one or more Arts subjects in depth. Schools decide which units of study per subject to complete, and how and when. This band plan provides one potential unit. | **Unit — Dance cultures** |
| Students make and respond to dance cultures, from local, Australian and global contexts, that reflect identity, self-expression and community.Students will:* combine elements of dance and improvise by making literal movements into abstract movements from a range of dance cultures
* develop their choreographic intent by applying the elements of dance to select and organise movement from a range of dance cultures
* practise and refine technical skills and techniques from different dance cultures
* structure dances using choreographic devices and form
* rehearse and perform focusing on expressive skills appropriate to a range of dance cultures and/or choreographic intent
* analyse how street dance choreographers use elements of dance and production elements to communicate intent
* identify and connect specific features and purposes of a range of dance cultures from contemporary and past times to explore viewpoints and enrich their dance-making, starting with dance in Australia, including dance of Aboriginal peoples and Torres Strait Islander peoples, and street dance of other countries.
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| **General capabilities**  |  Literacy    Critical and creative thinking    Personal and social capability     Intercultural understanding  |
| **Cross‑curriculum priorities**  |  Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander histories and cultures  |
| Develop assessment | **Assessment**The *Year 7 to Year 10 The Arts**Australian Curriculum in Queensland — assessment and reporting advice and guidelines* brings together advice about assessment, making judgments and reporting in a single document: [www.qcaa.qld.edu.au/downloads/p\_10/ac\_arts\_yr7-10.pdf](http://www.qcaa.qld.edu.au/downloads/p_10/ac_arts_yr7-10.pdf). | The assessment for the unit provides evidence of student learning and provides opportunities for teachers to make judgments about whether students have met the Australian Curriculum: Dance Years 7 and 8 achievement standard. Students should contribute to an individual assessment folio that provides evidence of their learning and represents their achievements. The folio should include a range and balance of assessments for teachers to make valid judgments about whether the student has met the achievement standard. It will gather evidence of their ability to: * identify and analyse the elements of dance, choreographic devices and production elements in dances in different styles and from different dance cultures and apply this knowledge in dances they make and perform
* evaluate how they and others from different cultures, times and places communicate meaning and intent through dance
* choreograph dances demonstrating selection and organisation of the elements of dance, choreographic devices and form to communicate choreographic intent
* perform with confidence and clarity, dances which they choreograph and learn with technical and expressive skills appropriate to the dance style and culture.
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| Make judgments and use feedback | **Consistency of teacher judgments** | * Make judgments of student achievements using the relevant achievement standards and task-specific standards.
* Identify opportunities to moderate samples of student work at a school or cluster level to reach consensus and consistency.
* Make consistent and comparable judgments by matching characteristics of the student work and qualities in the achievement standards.
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1. Source: Australian Curriculum, Assessment and Reporting Authority (ACARA), *Australian Curriculum: The Arts* —[www.australiancurriculum.edu.au/the-arts/curriculum/f-10?layout=1](http://www.australiancurriculum.edu.au/the-arts/curriculum/f-10?layout=1). [↑](#footnote-ref-1)
2. Prep Year in Queensland is the Foundation Year of the Australian Curriculum and refers to the year before Year 1. Children beginning Prep in January are required to be five years of age by 30 June. [↑](#footnote-ref-2)
3. Source: Australian Curriculum, Assessment and Reporting Authority (ACARA), *Australian Curriculum: The Arts* *— Dance: Rationale and Learning in Dance,* <http://www.australiancurriculum.edu.au/the-arts/dance/rationale> [↑](#footnote-ref-3)