

AS and A-level Dance – requirements for recording and submitting performance evidence

AQA requires schools/colleges to video record all students' final performances for assessment and must be given to the AQA examiner at the end of the assessment session. Enquiries about results (EAR's) will be in reference to the recording taken by the visiting examiner on the day of assessment.

Please refer to section 4.2 of the specification for full details of the assessment tasks and centre responsibilities for administering the tasks.

Please read this document carefully so you'll be familiar with AQA's recording requirements. If you have any questions, please call 01483 437750 or email aqadance@qa.org.uk

Before you start recording

1. Test the camera and any accessories, such as microphones, by recording a small piece of video and playing it back. Use a tripod to stabilise the camera and position it from an audience perspective.
2. Ensure that the space being used for filming is clear of furniture, equipment and other students standing around the edges; these can obscure the overall view of the dancer or detract from the performance.
3. Ensure the studio is well lit, with any direct light source behind the camera operator; where natural light floods in from windows behind the dancer, the recording will appear in silhouette; stage lighting or spotlights can also adversely affect the video quality.
4. Ask students to wear light coloured clothing where black curtains are the background; this should enable them to be seen clearly.

During recording

The final performance for assessment must be recorded with a single camera from an audience perspective and from start to finish and be unedited.

1. Clearly identify dancers, particularly where more than one appears in shot (see later instruction on how to do this).
2. Avoid clipping the ending of the recording.
3. Ensure filming does not go automatically to auto-focus during the performance as this can cause blurring, making assessment very difficult.
4. Always film the student straight-on from the audience perspective. Evidence filmed from a side angle, or from behind the student, will not be accepted.
5. Ensure that extraneous noise is kept to a minimum. It can affect student performances and make it difficult to hear the soundtrack.
6. Make sure that the person filming knows the dance well. This is usually the teacher acting as the technician. Familiarity with the work will enable the action to be followed and the frame zoomed to $\frac{3}{4}$ full with the student in the centre of the shot.
7. Do not film the student from some distance without the zoom facility being used.
8. Avoid using a fixed position camera without an operator as students may disappear off screen.

Identify students

1. Identify each student by writing his or her name and candidate number clearly on an A4 sheet, and then hold it close to the camera at the start of the dance. This way, we will always have a back-up method of identification.
2. You must make a comprehensive and accurate running order of the students' work. You must use the form(s), as appropriate, included in this document.

Formats and media

AQA can only accept work recorded on the following media:



A USB stick



We can accept work recorded onto DVD provided it is on the correct type of disc.

These discs are acceptable:

DVD+R	DVD+RW	DVD+R	DVD+RW
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We can't accept these:

DVD-VCD	Blu-Ray	CD-R	mini-DVD
DVD-MP3	HD-DVD	CD-RW	SD Card

AQA will not accept work which has been recorded onto VHS cassette, Mini DV tapes or SD Cards.

Recording onto the wrong format may mean that AQA is unable to mark students' work

Changing format

If you've recorded work onto a format which is different to those described above, you will need to transfer it to an acceptable format. There are several software packages that are able to do this, or you will need to find an AV technician to transfer it to an acceptable format for you.

If a technician transfers the material onto DVD the final version must be thoroughly checked by the teacher to ensure that names of students are correct and whole dances have been recorded.

After recording

Please label every USB stick or disk with the appropriate information, for example:

Centre name

Centre numbers

Qualification

Component

Number of candidates

USB/DVD number

XXXXXXXXXXXXXXXXXXXXXXXXXXXX

12345

AS or A-level Dance

7236/1 or 7237/1

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[Special considerations](#)

To ensure special considerations can be applied; it is advisable to record interim work, in case any student is injured or unwell at the time of final assessment.

Please also refer to AQA policy on special consideration on the AQA [Special considerations](#) web page.

If you've any further, questions please call 01483 437750 or email aqadance@qa.org.uk

